

**PERU - PERU IN DEPTH**



**INTRODUCTION**

This in-depth Peruvian experience begins in the capital city of Lima where you can explore the city before taking the bus to Paracas, a port town which provides access to Ballestas Islands. After spending a day in Nazca, head to the White City of Arequipa. On your trip to Colca Canyon, appreciate the Andean landscape. Visit Puno and the islands of Lake Titicaca then travel to Cusco to visit the surrounding Incan ruins. Finally, end your trip in Hacienda Concepcion where you can immerse yourself in the jungle life of the Amazon.

**ITINERARY**

DAY 1: Arrival transfer in Lima

On arrival, please make your way through to the Arrivals Hall where our representative will be waiting for you to transfer you to your hotel. This service includes a driver and local English speaking guide who will provide you with any useful information needed for your stay. He/she will be holding a sign with your name on it. Should you not be able to locate them, please refer to the front of your itinerary for emergency contact details of our representative office.



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### DAY 1: Lima

Lima, the capital of Peru, sits on the country's arid Pacific coast. Founded in 1535, its colonial centre is well preserved, but today Lima is a bustling metropolis and one of South America's largest cities. The city is home to the various museums including the Museo Larco that houses a collection of pre-Columbian art and the Museo de la Nación, tracing the history of Peru's ancient civilizations. Lima is known as the "gastronomical capital of the Americas", encompassing specialties from ceviche and traditional coastal cooking to refined global fare. It even boasts several of the top restaurants in the world.



### DAY 2: Lima - City Tour

Today you will be collected from your hotel for your tour of Lima, the Colonial 'City of Kings'. On the city tour you will visit a number of well-known sites including the Cathedral, the Presidential Palace, Santo Domingo Convent and the Plaza de Armas. This is a chance to appreciate Lima's magnificent Colonial architecture as well as vignettes of its pre-Colombian past. On completion of this tour, you will be taken to your hotel. Please note this is a small group tour.



### DAY 3: Transfer to bus station for onward destination

You will be collected from your hotel to transfer to the bus station for your onward journey from Lima.



### DAY 3: Bus Lima - Paracas

Travel by bus from Lima to Paracas in a comfortable bus offering a great designer interior with ample leg-room for you to relax or read a book in comfort, large panoramic windows through which to view the landscape and with an on-board toilet and full air-conditioning. The bus drive takes approximately 4 hours.



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### DAY 3: Arrival transfer in Paracas

On arrival at Paracas bus station, you will be met by a representative who will be holding a sign with your name on it, to transfer you to your hotel. Should you have trouble locating him/her, please refer to the front of your itinerary for emergency contact details.



### DAY 3: Paracas

Paracas meaning "sand rain" in Quechua, is a small port town and beach resort on the southern coast of Peru, a few hours south of Lima. The cliffs that fringe the beaches teem with birds, ranging from guano birds to Humboldt penguins. Paracas is the access point for tours to Islas Ballestas and to Paracas National Reserve, where there are huge colonies of seabirds as well as sea lions.



### DAY 4: Ballestas Island Cruise

This morning, you will be collected from your hotel transferred to the small port of Paracas to board the boat that will cruise around the Ballestas Islands. See the remarkable marine mammals and birdlife the islands are famous for. From the boat, you can see the incredible ancient etchings in the coastal cliffs including the mysterious three-pronged Candelabra of the Andes. This 180 metre tall geoglyph is carved into the side of the hill alongside Paracas Bay. On completion of the cruise, you will be transferred back to your hotel. Please note this is a small group tour.



### DAY 4: Private Transfer Paracas - Nazca

Private transfer from Paracas to hotel in Nazca.



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### DAY 4: Nazca

Nazca is located in the Ica region of Peru, on the southern coast, one of the most arid regions in the world. The name is derived from the Nazca culture that flourished in the area between 100 and 800 AD and was responsible for the Nazca Lines, the ceremonial city of Cahuachi and for constructing an impressive system of underground aqueducts (Puquios) that still function to this day. If you have some free time in Nazca, you may like to consider an optional flight over the Nazca Lines or a trip to the Chauchilla Cemetery.



### DAY 5: Bus: Nazca - Arequipa

Travel by comfortable bus with bus bed-seats, hostess service and dinner on board to arrive into Arequipa at midnight. The bus journey takes approximately 10 hours.



### DAY 5: Arrival transfer in Arequipa

On arrival at Arequipa bus station, you will be met by a representative who will be holding a sign with your name on it, to transfer you to your hotel. Should you have trouble locating him/her, please refer to the front of your itinerary for emergency contact details.



### DAY 5: Arequipa

Arequipa lies on the edge of the Altiplano, 2380m above sea level and framed by the volcanoes Misti, Pikchu Pikchu and Chachani. It is known as "La Ciudad Blanca" (White City), as many of its buildings are made of sillar, a white volcanic stone. The historic centre of Arequipa is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and its historic heritage, natural scenery and cultural sites, make the city a popular destination.



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### DAY 6: Arequipa Free Day

Today is free for you to explore and discover the city of Arequipa at your leisure. Wander around the Plaza de Armas, the main square of Arequipa and see the cathedral with El Misti (5825m) rising behind it. Explore the Santa Catalina Monastery, built in 1579 in the Mudéjar style, enlarged in the 17th century and characterised by vividly painted walls. The monastery covers an area of 20,000 sq. metres. It served as a cloister for Dominican nuns from the 16th to the 18th century and still houses around 20 nuns in the northern corner of the complex. Visit the "Mummy Juanita" in the Museo Santuarios Andinos. Also known as the Inca Ice Maiden, Juanita is the well-preserved frozen body of an Inca girl who was killed and sacrificed to the Inca gods in the 15th century. She was discovered in 1995 on Mount Ampato in the Andes Cordillera in southern Peru.



### DAY 7: Arequipa to Colca Canyon

Early this morning you will be picked up from your hotel to commence your road journey to the Colca Canyon. Enroute there will be several stops to appreciate flora, fauna and high Andean Landscapes, one of them is Pampa Canahuas, located at 3,800 metres above sea level, inside the National Reserve Salinas y Aguada Blanca, a place where we can see vicunas in their natural habitat and the Misti and Chachani Volcanoes. During the next part of the journey, you will visit the community of Patahuasi (4,000 metres above sea level), the Toccra Zone (4,300 metres above sea level) homes to llamas, alpacas, migratory birds and offering incredible views of the landscape and Patapampa (4,900 metres above sea level), the highest point and offering majestic views of the cordillera and most of the volcanoes in the Arequipa region. Begin to descend to Chivay town located in the Colca Valley. Free time for lunch (not included) before transferring to your hotel for your overnight stay. There is an optional visit to the 40°C thermal-medicinal baths in La Calera. (Entrance fee to the pools is not included and is US\$ 7.00 per person approximately - subject to change.) Note: The optional visit to La Calera Hot Springs is for clients staying in Chivay town only.



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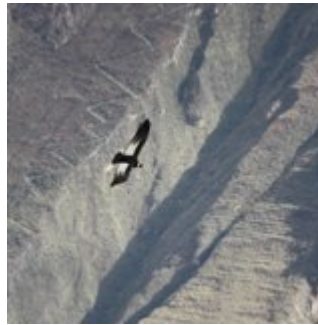
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### DAY 8: Colca Canyon to Puno

Following breakfast, we travel to the 'Cruz del Condor', a spot considered to be the best viewpoint to watch the majestic Andean condors ascending from the valley. The Colca Canyon is a canyon of the Colca River and one of the deepest canyons in the world. It is home to the Andean condors that can be seen at close range as they fly past the canyon walls, rising on the thermals. At the 'Cruz del Condor' viewpoint, the canyon floor is 3,960 feet (1,200 m) below the rim of the canyon. After this amazing spectacle, we continue our journey back to the town of Chivay, taking in the beautiful Andean scenery and fascinating pre-Inca, Inca and Colonial history of the area. The road passes through several small villages founded in Spanish colonial times and still inhabited by people of the Collagua and the Cabana cultures. The local people maintain their traditional way of life and continue to cultivate the pre-Inca stepped terraces. Many of the women wear traditional dress with colourful embroidered blouses and flower-patterned hats. In the afternoon, travel by bus to Puno, situated on the shores of the famous Lake Titicaca. You will board a touristic bus that includes a hostess who speaks limited english, snacks and beverages. The duration of this bus journey is approximately six hours.



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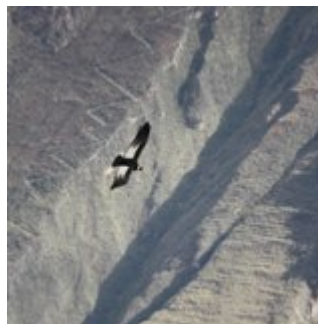
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### DAY 8: Arrival transfer in Puno

On arrival at Puno bus or train station, you will be met by a representative who will be holding a sign with your name on it, to transfer you to your hotel. Should you have trouble locating him/her, please refer to the front of your itinerary for emergency contact details.



### DAY 8: Puno

Puno lies on the shores of Lake Titicaca, the highest navigable lake in the world. It is the largest city in the Southern Altiplano and an important agricultural and livestock (llamas and alpaca) region. It sits at an altitude of over 3,800 metres and is a picturesque hillside city and a melting pot of the Aymara and Quechua culture.



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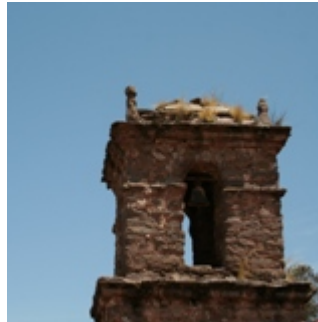
### DAY 9: Puno - Amantani

Early this morning, you will be collected from your hotel and transferred to the port to board your boat. Visit the floating islands of Uros, where the locals continue to practice their traditional way of life. Located 4 kms from Puno, the original inhabitants of these floating islands are said to descend from one of the most ancient peoples of the Americas. The Uros Islands, as well as the houses on them and the boats used by their inhabitants, are all made from the Totura reeds that grow in Lake Titicaca. Continue to Amantani Island, where you will have the chance to enjoy traditional local hospitality while taking in some incredible landscapes. The island is also home to some captivating archaeological sites including the temples of Pachatata and Pachamama. This evening spend the night with a local family and in the evening experience first-hand the traditions and customs of this fascinating island. Lunch and dinner included.



### DAY 10: Amantani - Puno

After breakfast and bidding a fond farewell to your host family, we travel to the island of Taquile, a place where time appears to have stood still. Around 350 Quechua-speaking families live here, operating a collective agricultural system dating from the 14th Century and renowned for their textiles - beautifully woven chumpis (belts), chullos (caps) and ojotas (sandals). Taquile's charm is further enhanced by the stunning landscape and outstanding views of the snow-capped Cordillera Real mountain range. From Taquile, we board the boat once more to return to Puno where you will be transferred to your hotel. Please note for your overnight stay, lodging is very basic with limited facilities and it is recommended to only bring an overnight bag and a torch.



### DAY 11: Transfer from Puno hotel to bus or train station

This morning, you will be collected from your hotel and transferred to either the bus or train station for your journey from Puno to Cusco.



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### DAY 11: Puno to Cusco

The spectacular journey from Puno to Cusco takes you across the Altiplano and you will travel accompanied by an English-speaking guide. The drive takes you through sleepy Andean villages and past spectacular snowcapped mountains, sheer cliffs and rampaging rivers. Stops along the way include the atmospheric towns of Pucara and Andahuaylillas and the pre-Inca ruin of Raqchi. Lunch is included and you will arrive in the famous city of Cusco in the early evening. The approximate journey will take ten hours.



### DAY 11: Arrival transfer in Cusco

On arrival at Cusco bus or train station, you will be met by a representative who will be holding a sign with your name on it, to transfer you to your hotel. Should you have trouble locating him/her, please refer to the front of your itinerary for emergency contact details.



### DAY 11: Cusco

Cusco, set at an altitude of 3,400 metres in the Peruvian Andes, was once the capital of the Inca Empire. It is known for its Spanish colonial architecture and Incan remains. Narrow, cobblestoned streets lined by Inca walls stretch out from the main plaza in every direction. Many of the colonial buildings were built on top of Incan foundations and the stonework is unparalleled in its precision and beauty.



### DAY 12: Cusco - City Tour

You will be collected from your hotel for a sightseeing tour through Cusco, the heart of the Inca Empire. Visit the fascinating Qorikancha Temple of the Sun, the 12-Angled Rock and the Cathedral, built on the ruins of an Inca Palace. From here head to the archaeological remains located around the city, including the fortress of Sacsayhuaman, Qenqo (giant rock), the ancient site of Puca Pucara and finally the Water Temple of Tambomachay. On completion of your tour, you will be taken to your hotel. Included in your tour price is the BTG (Tourist Ticket of Cusco). Please note this is a small group tour.



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### DAY 13: Sacred Valley Tour

This morning you will be collected from your hotel for full day of exploring the Sacred Valley of the Incas. This fertile river valley was home to many important sites for the Incas, both strategic and religious. The first stop is the village of Pisac, with its famous market. The colonial village of Pisac sits at the base of the spectacular Pisac Ruins – a hilltop Inca citadel and fortress with impressive agricultural terracing. On market days Pisac comes alive with locals from nearby hillside villages in traditional dress selling local fruit and vegetables as well as handicrafts. There is free time to wander the colourful market stalls before a typical Andean lunch at a local restaurant. Continue your journey along the River Urubamba, to Ollantaytambo. The town, which is dominated by a giant Inca fortress, is perhaps the best surviving example of Inca town planning and was the scene of a rare Inca victory over the invading Spanish. At the end of the tour you will be transferred to the train station in Ollantaytambo to take the train to Aguas Calientes. Lunch is included.



### DAY 13: Ollantaytambo to Aguas Calientes

Travel from Ollantaytambo to Machu Picchu in this comfortable train, and let your feet have rest. Enjoy an authentic Andean experience, while relaxing in modern and comfortable interior design illuminated by Latin American music. Comfortable seats with tables in front to share the journey with friends and partake of a refreshing beverage. On-board services includes a fun and refreshing selection of drinks prepared using Andean herbs and fruits, all of which boast revitalising properties to fill you with energy and keep you ready for the next adventure waiting ahead of you. \*Due to limited space for luggage storage on trains, luggage restrictions apply: one bag or backpack (carry-on luggage) with a maximum weight of 5.0 kg/11 lb, measuring no more than 62 linear inches/157 linear cm (height + length + width)



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### DAY 14: Machu Picchu Guided Tour

Machu Picchu is a 15th century Inca site, located 2,430 metres above sea level on a mountain ridge above the Sacred Valley. It is the most famous of all Inca sites, but it was not until 1911 that it was brought to the world's attention by the American historian Hiram Bingham. The Incas abandoned the city just prior to Spanish colonisation, the city was never pillaged and as a result the ruins are still in fantastic condition. With its location on a dramatic ridgeline surrounded by sheer cliffs and the Urubamba River on three sides, the city of Machu Picchu is a remarkable place to visit. Machu Picchu was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1983 and in 2007 it was voted one of the new Seven Wonders of the World. The tour starts with a bus ride from Aguas Calientes to Machu Picchu. You will be astonished at your first view of Machu Picchu, a stunning display of ancient architecture with incredible surroundings. Enjoy a guided shared tour of the ruins and monuments such as the Main Square, the Circular Tower, the Sacred Solar Clock, the Royal Quarters, the Temple of the Three Windows and the Cemeteries. Return by bus to Aguas Calientes village. Please be aware that your tour of Machu Picchu does not include an entry permit to Huayna Picchu (the iconic hill behind the Machu Picchu ruins). If you want to climb Huayna Picchu then you need to pre-book your permit with at least 3 months in advance. Please contact your travel specialist if you would like to do this.



### DAY 14: 360 Machu Picchu Train: Mapi - Ollanta PM

This afternoon travel by train from Aguas Calientes to Ollantaytambo. \*Due to limited space for luggage storage on trains, luggage restrictions apply: one bag or backpack (carry-on luggage) with a maximum weight of 5.0 kg/11 lb, measuring no more than 62 linear inches/157 linear cm (height + length + width)



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**DAY 14: Private Transfer Ollantaytambo - Cusco**

Transfer from Ollantaytambo train station in the Sacred Valley to Cusco.



**DAY 15: Transfer to the airport for onward destination**

You will be collected from your hotel at the appropriate time and transferred to the airport for your onward flight.



**DAY 15: Puerto Maldonado - Refugio Amazonas**

On arrival at Puerto Maldonado Airport, you will be met by a representative of Refugio Amazonas to begin the journey to Refugio. Enroute we will stop at the local office so that you can repack your luggage and only take what is required for the next four days. The rest will be stored securely in the office. Continue by road and a two and a half hour boat journey to Refugio Amazonas, located in a 200-hectare private reserve. The boat ride from the Tambopata River Port to Refugio Amazonas takes us past the Infierno Community and the Tambopata National Reserve checkpoint and into the buffer zone of this 1.3 million hectare conservation unit. A boxed lunch is provided to eat along the way. On arrival you will be welcomed to the lodge and given a brief orientation. After dinner at the lodge there is the option to join a night walk when most of the animals are active but sometimes difficult to see. The frogs are easier to see with their fascinating shapes and colours and fascinating sounds.



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### DAY 16: Refugio Amazonas

After breakfast venture out onto the lake by canoe or catamaran, looking for wildlife such as hoatzin, caiman, horned screamers, macaws and otters that are sometimes seen in the area. Back on land, a 30 minute walk from the lodge takes you to the 25 metre scaffolding canopy tower, complete with staircase running through the middle and providing safe access to the platforms above. The tower has been built on high ground to give views of the primary rainforest extending out towards the Tambopata National Reserve. Enjoy excellent views across the canopy and look for toucans, macaws and raptors. After lunch you will visit a farm to learn about local agriculture and Amazonian crops before an ethnobotanical tour to learn about the medicinal uses of the various plants and trees of the region. In the evening, Refugio Amazonas staff offer lectures covering topics such as conservation threats, opportunities and projects in the Tambopata National Reserve.



### DAY 17: Refugio Amazonas

Witness the audio and visual spectacle of a clay lick, watching vibrant coloured macaws, parrots and parakeets feast on clay. Species such as dusky-headed and cobalt-winged parakeets are often seen and with luck we may also see mealy and yellow-crowned Amazons, blue-headed pionus, severe macaw and orange-cheeked (Barraband` s) parrots. After lunch, take a short hike from the lodge brings us to a beautiful Brazil nut forest that has been harvested for decades. Here you can learn about the whole process of the rainforest's only sustainably harvested product, from collection through transportation to drying. In the afternoon, there will be a visit to a peccary clay lick, this time to see mammals. Wild rain forest pigs show up in herds of up to twenty to eat clay, alongside deer, guan and parakeets.



### DAY 18: Refugio Amazonas - Puerto Maldonado

After breakfast, return to Puerto Maldonado for your departure flight. Depending on airline schedules, this may require a dawn departure. Please note schedule of activities are subject to change without notice.



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**INCLUSIONS & DETAILS**

<b>Accommodation</b>	Hotels and lodge in the Amazon.
<b>Inclusions</b>	<p>Airport transfers Internal flights Accommodation with breakfast All meals in Amazon Lodge Tours as detailed in itinerary Other meals where stated</p> <p><b>EXCLUSIONS:</b> Entrance Fee to Tambopota National Reserve (US\$13 per person for Refugio Amazonas) Tips, personal expenses Alcoholic beverages in Amazon Lodge International flights Visas</p>
<b>Difficulty Rating</b>	2 (Hight altitude in some areas)
<b>Single Surcharge</b>	Contact us for more details.
<b>Notes</b>	<p>All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice This itinerary can be done in the reverse. Contact us for more details.</p>
<b>Price Dependent upon</b>	Season and availability.

**SUSTAINABILITY**

Chimu Adventures is passionate and dedicated to sustainability measures and understands the crucial part sustainability plays within the tourism industry.

We use local guides and office staff to both maximise local employment opportunities and minimise carbon footprint. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you're visiting. Our guides are all highly qualified (most with university degrees) or equip with many years of experience and are paid above the standard wage. Whether it be our knowledgeable local guides, locally produced meals or the transport on tour, we do not use imported goods when local products are available. We aim to minimise our impact on the environment and give as much back as possible to the communities we work in.

We ensure that we have as little negative impact on the wildlife as possible and minimise disturbances. We also encourage the education and visitation of protection and conservation services, specifically associated with the area. We follow strict guidelines when visiting Machu Pichu as a World Heritage Site, pronounced by UNESCO, and want to

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facilitate your enjoyment whilst conserving its beauty and wonder. You will also find that we visit many other national parks, heritage sites, museums and landmarks of which we encourage you to explore yet advise you to remain culturally aware and sensitive. We further encourage you to buy appropriate souvenirs and discourage the buying of anything wrongfully made or taken from the environment i.e. shells and endangered species products. Information on how you can be environmentally conscious, and travel responsibly will be made available in pre-departure information and en-route by guides and staff.

Being environmentally accountable is a crucial part of our organisation. Chimu is currently striving towards using less paper, taking several initiatives to do so and tracking our progress along the way. Our goal: A paperless organisation. For this reason, all information given to you will be sent electronically. We encourage those who choose to travel with us to support our aspirations and actions and ask that you reconsider printing out documentation. To view these documents, you can download them to your iPad or portable computer before and during your trip.

For more information visit our [sustainability page](#).

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