

PERU - PERU ULTIMATE ECO EXPERIENCE



INTRODUCTION

A visit to Peru is like no other. Incredible history, culture and wildlife awaits you. This new tour allows you to enjoy Peru's incredible highlights in the knowledge that much of your holiday investment will go straight back into community projects and sustainable tourism within the country.

The tour visits the incredible Manu Biosphere reserve, the largest tropical rainforest reserve on earth. The level of biodiversity in the reserve exceeds that of anywhere else in the world making it one of the greatest wildlife experiences in Latin America. CREES (Conservation, Research, Environmental Education towards Sustainability) who run the logistics and lodges on this tour are a not-for-profit foundation. Their mission is to implement ethical and sustainable practices that produce and create an improved future for the rainforest and its people through providing real solutions to local problems.

The tour then continues to Cusco, the Inca capital, where you will have a chance to explore the city with a local guide, who can give you a wonderful insight into the country's people and culture. In Cusco you will stay at Los Niños Hotel. The hotel was set up in 1998 to raise funds for the charity Niños Foundation. The foundation offers assistance to over 600 neglected children in the Cusco area, offering daily meals, education support and dental and medical care. A stay at this hotel helps support the fantastic work this charity does in the area.

Following an unforgettable journey through the Sacred Valley, you will board the train to Machu Picchu. The world famous site speaks for itself, but few people realise that the ruins perch on top of a mountain surrounded by lush cloud forest filled with dozens of species of orchids and teeming with beautiful birds. The Rupa Wasi eco-lodge on the edge of Machu Picchu's protected nature sanctuary take their role in protecting this pristine environment very seriously. The hotel is built from sustainable materials, they only use alternative energy sources and only use biodegradable products. A two night stay at the lodge allows you to not only visit the awesome Machu Picchu, but also explore the beautiful eco-system surrounding the lodge.

ITINERARY

TRIP CODE

PETSUEE

DEPARTURE

Daily

DURATION

11 Days

LOCATIONS

Peru, Machu Picchu



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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.



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: 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 2: Arrival transfer in Cusco

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. He/she will be holding a sign with your name on it. Please note this service is with a driver only.



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DAY 3: Cusco to Manu Cloud Forest

Depart from Cusco in the morning to Paucartambo, the centre of ancient trading routes of the Incas, and stop for light refreshment. Continue your journey on towards one of the highest points of the day at Acjanaco at 3,500 m, a park ranger’s station and the entrance to Manu National Park. If weather conditions permit, you may have the chance of seeing the spectacular views of Peru’s largest National Park. Amidst the clouds, travel on towards San Pedro, where you will have lunch. Take in the dramatic changes of the landscape as you go until you reach the Cock of the Rock Lodge in the afternoon, for your overnight stay.



DAY 4: Manu Cloud Forest & Learning Centre


An early morning start takes you out into the cloud forest to see one of its main attractions, the Cock of the Rock bird, the national bird of Peru. The journey will be full of the sights and sounds of the forest, monkeys and some of the richest varieties of birds on earth as well as the spectacled bear. Continue on to visit Pillcopata and the port-town of Atalaya, to board a motorised canoe to the Manu Learning Centre for your first impression of the meandering Amazonian river, the Alto Madre de Dios. In the afternoon, explore the local trail system with your naturalist guides, before relaxing at the lodge to the sounds of forest.



DAY 5: Macaw Clay Lick

Take an early morning boat trip to the clay lick, to observe countless macaws, parrots and parakeets creating a visual and audio spectacle as they flock in. On your way back for breakfast, head into the forest and visit a bio-garden; part of the centre’s sustainable project which also supplies the food to the lodge’s kitchen. From here head through multiple forest types, spotting squirrel monkeys humming birds and razor-billed curassows. Spend the afternoon at leisure or spend it with one of the specialist guides exploring the 25km of trails in the rainforest. In the evening, the guides and naturalists offer a presentation on the work at Crees on sustainability and conservation.



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DAY 6: Depart for Cusco

After breakfast, take the boat back to the port-town of Atalaya where you will board your transport to take you back to Cusco.



DAY 7: 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, Qenko (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.



DAY 8: 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. Lunch is included.




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DAY 8: 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 9: 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.



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DAY 10: Free Morning in Machu Picchu

This morning is free to explore Aguas Calientes, or take an optional tour to further explore Machu Picchu.



DAY 10: 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)



DAY 10: Private Transfer Ollantaytambo - Cusco

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



DAY 11: 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.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

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Accommodation	Standard
Inclusions	Airport transfers Accommodation Tours in the itinerary Internal flight from Lima to Cusco. Transports All breakfasts Other meals where stated
Difficulty Rating	1 (Easy)
Single Surcharge	FROM US\$800 - Subject to season and availability, contact us for more details.
Notes	The price is based on the Monday departure for Manu (Day 3). For the passengers starting the Manu portion on any other day, a supplement will apply.
Price Dependent upon	Season and availability

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SUSTAINABILITY

Chimu Adventures undertakes a number of sustainability measures within its operations including:

- 1) Only using local guides and office staff to both maximise local employment opportunities and minimise carbon footprints. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you’re visiting.
- 2) Where possible, using locally owned and operated boutique hotels to maximise the return to the local community.
- 3) Chimu’s “Pass it on” programme has provided funding to hundreds of local community projects in Latin America. Our aim is to empower local communities, helping them to develop their own infrastructure for the future. Since 2006, we have been working with Kiva (a well-known Non-Governmental Organisation), providing hundreds of loans to local businesses all over South America.
- 4) In our pre tour information we provide a range of tips and advice on how to minimise your impact on both local environments and communities.
- 5) Chimu Adventures’ offices also take a number of sustainability measures including carbon offsets for company vehicles and most staff travel. Chimu Adventure’s internal processes are also structures to create a paperless office and to reduce waste. There are also internal programmes to help staff minimise their carbon footprint such as our staff bike purchase assistance plan which encourages office staff to commute to work via bicycle. Currently almost half of our office based staff commute to work via bicycle.