

PERU - WONDERS OF PERU



INTRODUCTION

Peru is a spectacle of nature. Its one-of-a-kind geography holds an immense array of surprises that will make you want to come back for more. A country famous for its cultural and historical places such as Machu Picchu, but it is also home to amazing wonders of nature in the Amazon Jungle.

Join us on this 12-day itinerary and discover some of the wonders of Peru. The adventure starts in Lima, the second-driest world capital, rising above a long coastline of crumbling cliffs. Continue then to Cusco where we will begin The Lares Adventure to Machu Picchu, offering the perfect combination of traditional adventure travel and cultural immersion. This 5-day lodge-to-lodge journey will alternate between an exploration of the astounding natural scenery of the Sacred Valley of the Incas and an intimate look at Andean culture, both in busy towns and in the most-remote of mountain hamlets. Daily expeditions will lead you along seldom highland trails surrounded by exquisite snow-capped peaks, past roving herds of llamas and alpacas, around impossibly hued turquoise lakes, and through graceful waterfalls until finally reaching the amazing Machu Picchu ruins.

Fly from Cusco to Iquitos and get deep in the Peruvian Amazon aboard the Delfin Amazon Cruise. Immerse in one of the world's largest protected flooded forests, the Pacaya Samiria National Reserve. Experienced guides will show you the immense biodiversity of the area. The voyage includes visits to native villages, kayaking, swimming near pink river dolphins, fishing, daytime hiking, and night safaris. On board, guests you will enjoy exquisite Amazonian cuisine in an authentic, intimate setting with the right amount of elegance and comfort.

ITINERARY

TRIP CODE

PETSWOP

DEPARTURE

Enquire for exact
departure dates

DURATION

12 Days

LOCATIONS

Peru, Machu Picchu,
Amazon



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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: 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 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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DAY 3: 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.



DAY 3: 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.



DAY 3: Pre-Trek Briefing

This evening the trek operator will hold a pre-trek briefing at your hotel. Time will be reconfirmed with you directly on arrival. Please note your sleeping bag which is included will be provided to you at this briefing.



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DAY 4: Cusco - Sacred Valley

Early morning departure from Cusco. The town square is often the center of activity throughout this region, but so too is the town market, and none is more alive than the famous market at Písaq. Choose a morning visit to check out its unique array of products will inspire you with a small taste of the rich culture yet to be explored on your journey or travellers seeking inspiration in nature can opt for an invigorating morning hike surrounded by amazing views of the Andes Mountains that guard this magnificent valley. Later, enjoy exclusive access to the isolated community of Viacha, where you will learn about its artisanal potato farming practices and enjoy a traditional “Pachamanca” meal, cooked under hot stones. After lunch you will visit the archaeological complex at Písaq, an afternoon excursion that offers a unique opportunity to explore the complex free of crowds, with the sun setting behind the peaks. Continue to Lamay Lodge for your overnight stay.



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DAY 5: Lares Region

Now that you have gotten a glimpse of the rich Andean tapestry, today you will have the opportunity to go even deeper with an exploration into the heart of the Lares Valley. A scenic drive into the mountains, along the celebrated “Inca Weaver’s Trail”, allows you to visit the unique and uncrowded archeological site of Ancasmарca along the hub-town of Lares. After lunch, you can choose between visiting the traditional and ancient weavers’ village of Choquecancha, or opt for hiking amidst turquoise blue lakes and towering peaks to the remote village of Huacahuasi, where we all meet to spend the night. The Huacahusai Lodge, is run in joint venture with the local community and aims to protect the cultural heritage and the environment, provides an interesting insight into the evolving role of the original Andean people in both the culture and commerce of modern-day Cusco.



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DAY 6: Sacred Valley

Spend some time in the morning learning more about the heritage and day-to-day activities of the Huacahuasi community. Then, you can choose to embark on a spectacular hike through varied terrain and over a high pass, to the adjacent valley leading to the ancient town of Ollantaytambo, the oldest living city in Latin America; or try a 2 in 1 activity, hiking from Lares Pass through an astonishing authentic Inca trail along a beautiful canyon down to the Local Community of Totorá. If you prefer to see more of the Sacred Valley, you can drive back for a visit to an ethnographic museum featuring the history of Peru’s rich civilizations of the past or choose to explore the valley on mountain bike. Afterwards, enjoy lunch in the Urubamba River countryside on your way to Ollantaytambo, where you can spend time meandering through its charming maze-like streets. Overnight at Kuychi Rumi Lodge.



DAY 7: Sacred Valley

From its beginnings as the royal estate of Inca-Emperor Pachacutec, to a stronghold against the Spanish conquistadors for Manco Inca Yupanqui, the temple at Ollantaytambo was regarded by the Incas as one of their most important ceremonial centers. On this day, an optional and short early morning hike to Inca storage structures high above Ollantaytambo will give you a magnificent view of the town as well as of the main archeological site across the valley. Afterwards, as your guide leads you through a morning tour of the temple and explains its strategic architectural planning, you will also get a sense of its mystical history...a perfect introduction to the wonder of Machu Picchu. Around noon you will embark on a scenic train ride along the famous Urubamba River to Aguas Calientes, the town below Machu Picchu, whose charm lies in a history that began as a small railway stop and evolved into a bustling town still bisected by the train tracks.



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DAY 8: Machu Picchu - Cusco

At dawn, you begin your journey to Machu Picchu with a short and rollicking uphill bus ride. As you enter the "Sanctuary" (as locals refer to it), the morning sun rises over the iconic Sun Gate and washes the structures and terraces with resplendent light. Prepare to be awed by the imposing and skillful architecture of the Watchtower, the Temple of the Sun, and the royal Inca residences, among many others. Take a moment to quietly sit and listen to the wind...or to meditate and absorb the mystical energy that envelops you. Your imagination will soar as you contemplate the history of Machu Picchu and its mysterious origins. Some may even choose a hike to Huayna Picchu, the iconic towering mountain often seen in photographs, for dramatic views that stretch from the Urubamba River valley to the edge of the Amazon Jungle. Either way, you will be touched by a feeling of peace and rejuvenation which will linger even as you journey back to the city lights, and hustle and bustle of Cusco.



DAY 9: Transfer to the airport for onward destination

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DAY 9: Arrival in Iquitos

Our crew will be expecting your arrival at the airport, then transfer all together by our comfortable private vehicle over paved road to the city of Nauta, 95 kilometers away. Nauta is literally the "end of the road" where you will embark the Delfin. Along the way, you will see vibrant "terra firma" (non-flooded forest) and various aspects of daily jungle life. Nauta is a small riverside town on the banks of the Marañon River and was the first city founded in the department of Loreto. Once we reach Nauta, you will enjoy a VIP greeting at our private port along the shores of the Marañon River where the vessel awaits you. Aboard Delfin, you will be served by our qualified staff who will introduce you to your exquisite and cozy suite, specially equipped with all the amenities for the experienced traveler as yourself. Orthopedic beds, pure cotton sheets, pillows of 100% pure natural latex, cotton bathrobes, air conditioning, and private bathroom with Spanish style hot water showers.



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DAY 10: Clavero lagoon & Irikawa cano creek

On your first morning with us, we recommend getting up early to appreciate one of the most important zones of the Pacaya Samiria National Reserve. Never does nature seem more bountiful than in the tropics, and early rising is always rewarding since wildlife is most abundant and active with the rising of the sun. The exploration at Clavero Lake on board of our aluminum skiff, you will have the chance to get deep into the rainforest and its fantastic diversity of flora and fauna. When the sun really gets strong, feel free to go for a swim! This afternoon, wildlife will greet you and the biodiversity you will experience will be outstanding. You will have the chance to enjoy some of the myriad bird species, colorful, butterflies and other diverse insects, and noisy monkey troops.



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DAY 11: Belluda cano creek & Dorado River

Early today, you will head for this spectacular tributary spot within the Pacaya Samiria National Reserve in our skiffs where you will also experience an unforgettable encounter with gray and pink river dolphins. As well, the day's birds will be out and active, flying gracefully across the Amazon skies. On the river, you will see abundant wildlife and nature in all of its exuberance while we search for the Amazon River's transitional forest specialties such as snail kites, festive parrots, endangered scarlet macaws, olive spotted hummingbirds, Amazonian parrotlets and wood creepers, among others. Try your hand at piranha fishing as well during sunset. When the night shift strikes, you'll encounter a whole new world of adventure!



DAY 12: Puerto Miguel & Rescue Center

On board our skiffs, you will visit the community of Puerto Miguel to meet local villagers who have called Amazonia their home for generations. You may step into a typical schoolhouse where the children will be very happy to have visitors, and then stop by an area to see the women of this community who have a most amazing arts & craft market. With heavy hearts, the staff will wish you farewell as you begin your departure. At the port of Nauta, our ground crew will be waiting to take you by our private vehicle back to the city of Iquitos, about 95 kilometers journey by paved road. On our way from Nauta back to Iquitos airport, you will visit the Rescue & Rehabilitation Center of River Mammals (ACOBIA) where you will have the chance to meet baby manatees and learn about these wonderful and docile creatures and why they are on the endangered species list. You will also have the chance to pet and feed these kind manatees. As well, there are also some other animals cared for by the center that have been rescued from capture for the intention of being turned into pets and other threatening conditions. We welcome you to donate to this ambitious organization and education center as you wish. Our land personnel will wait you at the airport and give your boarding passes and help you check in.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Deluxe
Inclusions	Private Airport Transfers Internal flights as part of itinerary Accommodation with breakfast daily Sightseeing with local English-speaking guide Other meals where stated 3 night accommodation on board Delfin III 4 days accommodation in hotels All meals on board Exclusions International flight Visa and reciprocity fees (if applicable) Travel Insurance Beverages Personal expenses Gratuities for tour guides/drivers Any items not mentioned as included
Difficulty Rating	4 Light to High Adventure (high altitude in some areas)
Single Surcharge	Available upon request. Contact us for more details.
Notes	All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice. This is a Tailor-Made itinerary which can be customised to create your own unique journey. Contact us to discuss your travel plans.
Price Dependent upon	Departure date, season and availability.

SUSTAINABILITY

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.

Chimu 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

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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.

Your itinerary will have you staying in the Mountain Lodges of Peru. These incredible lodges are a mindful and innovative player in the tourism industry in Peru. The Mountain Lodges of Peru sponsor Yanapana, a non-for-profit association committed to reducing poverty in the Andean Highlands. While visiting the many national parks, heritage sites, museums and landmarks our travellers are encouraged to explore 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 our Travellers Guides and provided during your travels by guides and staff.

For more information on our sustainability policies, including how we are striving towards being a paperless organisation, click [HERE](#)

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