

## 11 Days | Discover Peru | With Machu Picchu

Lima - Cuzco - Sacred Valley - Machu Picchu - Puno - Lake Titicaca

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From **\$5,999** Typically \$6,999 ✈️ pp twin share

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Return International Economy Class Airfares to Peru

City Tour of Lima with its 2000 years of history

Visit the impressive Inca fortress of Ollantaytambo

Discover the astonishing ancient citadel of Machu Picchu via the PeruRail Expedition Train

Excursion by boat to the fascinating Uros Floating Islands

## Description

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**THIS DEAL IS SOLD OUT/NO LONGER AVAILABLE**

Embark on an unforgettable adventure as you delve into the rich tapestry of Peru on an all-encompassing 11-day escorted tour.

This meticulously crafted journey takes you through the captivating landscapes and vibrant cities that define this South American gem. Begin your exploration in Lima, where the fusion of modernity and history creates a dynamic atmosphere. Traverse the Sacred Valley, a haven of ancient ruins and indigenous markets, immersing yourself in the cultural mosaic of the Andean highlands.

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In the imperial city of Cuzco, the heart of the Inca Empire, witness the seamless blend of pre-Columbian architecture and Spanish colonial influences. As you venture onward, the ethereal beauty of Lake Titicaca beckons, offering a serene backdrop for cultural encounters with local communities residing on the floating Uros Islands. A highlight not to be missed is the awe-inspiring Machu Picchu, a testament to the ingenuity of the Inca civilization. Marvel at the ancient citadel's architectural marvels and soak in the breathtaking panoramic views that unfold before you.

This comprehensive tour not only promises an immersive exploration of Peru's iconic landmarks but also includes return international flights from the East Coast of Australia. Take a step back in time, unraveling the mysteries of ancient civilizations, and savoring the vibrant present that Peru graciously unfolds. With carefully curated experiences and expert guidance, this worry-free journey ensures that every moment is filled with discovery and enchantment.



## Itinerary

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### Day 1

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#### East Coast Australia ✈ Lima, Peru

Today you will check in for your flight bound for Peru. Enjoy the services of your flight as you travel East across the Pacific Ocean.

**Meals:** Inflight Menu

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### Day 2

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#### Lima

Welcome to Peru! On arrival, clear customs, immigration, collect your bag and make your way to your accommodation. The rest of the day is yours at leisure to rest, relax and acquaint yourself with Peru's vibrant capital, founded in 1535 by the conquistador Francisco Pizarro.

**Meals:** None

**Accommodation:** Jose Antonio Hotel Lima or similar

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### Day 3

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#### Lima

This morning's tour of Lima, with its 2000 years of history, begins at the colonial centre of the city, declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site, with its historic buildings surrounding the splendid Plaza Mayor. View the impressive Palace of the Archbishop with its fine carved balcony, the opulent Government Palace, official residence of the President, and the 16th century Cathedral of Lima whose first stone was laid by Pizarro. Continue to the 17th century Monasterio de San Francisco complex with its magnificent tiles, ornate carved ceilings, exceptional paintings and world-renowned library. Spend the remainder of the day at leisure or join the optional Pachacamac Pre-Inca Ruins tour. Visit the archaeological site of Pachacamac, one of the largest religious centres in pre-Inca times on the Peruvian coast. This afternoon, join your Tour Manager for an orientation meeting about the wonderful journey that awaits you. Tonight, perhaps attend the optional Evening Larco Herrera Museum with dinner. Experience one of Lima's most magnificent museums by night on this tour, that also includes a light supper. Admire the world's largest collection of preColumbian masterpieces and a stunning exhibition of gold and priceless jewels

*Optional: Pachacamac Pre-Inca Ruins*

*Optional: Larco Herrera Museum with dinner*

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Accommodation:** Jose Antonio Hotel Lima or similar

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### Day 4

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#### Lima ✈ Cuzco 🚗 Urubamba (Sacred Valley)

Depart Lima this morning by flight to Cuzco, the ancient capital of the Inca Empire and the oldest continuously inhabited city in South America. Upon arrival, drive through the rugged mountainous region with its magnificent panoramas, along roads with farms and small villages to the Sacred Valley of the Incas. En route, stop in Chinchero. Here, enjoy an authentic Peruvian lunch followed by a demonstration of the ancient Andean tradition of making textiles from naturally dyed handwoven alpaca wool. Remarkably, the source for the vibrant colours are dyes that come from plants, minerals, and insects. Wander around the complex and shop for souvenirs among the fine textiles and other local treasures. This evening, dinner together with music at a lovely restaurant.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

**Accommodation:** San Agustin Urubamba Hotel or similar

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## Day 5

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### Urubamba (Sacred Valley)

Enjoy this morning at leisure in the Sacred Valley to explore some of the ancient ruins independently or, join the optional tour to Maras and Moray. The excursion begins in Moray, a remarkable agricultural centre that demonstrates the ancient Inca's mastery of high-altitude crop growing. You'll be astounded by the large complex of perfectly circular depressions in the earth that historians believe were used to study climatic conditions. Next, travel to the colonial town of Maras, known for its nearby salt evaporation ponds in use since the time of the Incas. This afternoon, visit the impressive Inca fortress of Ollantaytambo, an ancient complex of temples and terraces towering high over the valley, the last stand of the Incas in their defence against the Spanish conquistadors. Marvel at the architecture of the Incas in this well-preserved settlement, considered a living museum of 15th century life. Tonight, join the optional traditional dinner with a Peruvian family in their countryside home. Sample delectable home-cooked Peruvian specialties along with a warm and friendly cultural exchange.

*Optional: Maras and Moray Tour*

*Optional: Dinner with a Local Peruvian Family*

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Accommodation:** San Agustin Urubamba Hotel or similar

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## Day 6

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### Urubamba 🚆 Machu Picchu 🚆 Urubamba 🚆 Cuzco

Early morning transfer to the Sacred Valley's Ollanta Station to board the Expedition Train that travels through misty peaks to the astonishing ancient citadel of Machu Picchu\*, the "Lost City of the Incas", designated by UNESCO as one of the New Seven Wonders of the World. Machu Picchu was virtually unknown to the western world until Hiram Bingham's re-discovery in 1911. Spend the morning viewing the unforgettable wonders of this 15th century retreat, abandoned nearly 100 years later with the arrival of the conquistadors. See the highlights of the site including the imposing Temple of the Sun, the House of the Priest, the Sacred Plaza and the intricately carved rock likely used as a sundial by the ancient Incas. The images of this significant archaeological site will be a long-lasting memory. Return to the Sacred Valley in the early evening and transfer to your hotel in Cuzco for overnight.

*\*Approximate time spent at the ruins of Machu Picchu is 3 hours.*

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Accommodation:** Jose Antonio Cuzco Hotel or similar

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## Day 7

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### Cuzco

Spend today independently discovering the "Imperial City" of Cuzco, once the capital of the Inca Empire and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This lively city, rich in history, reveals remains of both the Inca and the Spanish presence. Take time to explore some of the city's stunning sights, or, shop for some of the finest handicrafts and textiles in all of Peru. Participate in the optional Cuzco "Behind the Scenes" tour, offering a glimpse into the other side of life in Cuzco. On this tour, visit a local market and taste fresh-baked Chuta bread. Stop at the Cuzco cemetery to learn more about Andean life and death and meet with a local "shaman" (holy man). After the cooking demonstration, enjoy a delicious meal. In the afternoon, join the optional Highlights of Cuzco excursion that takes you to the impressive Colonial Cathedral with its collection of over 400 paintings, the Temple of the Sun and the fortress of Sacsayhuaman, which took over seven decades to complete. Tonight, join your fellow travellers for dinner.

*Optional: Half Day Cuzco Behind the Scenes (AM)*

*Optional: Half Day Highlights of Cuzco (PM)*

**Meals:** Breakfast and Dinner

**Accommodation:** Jose Antonio Cuzco Hotel or similar

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## Day 8

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### Cuzco 🚗 Raqchi & Puno

Depart Cuzco early in the morning on a long drive today. Enjoy spectacular scenery as you drive through the Andes mountain range and the Andean plains to Puno on the Peruvian side of Lake Titicaca. In this area, South American camelids (llamas and alpacas) graze on the immense plateaus and plains. En route visit the 15th century Temple of Wiracocha, with its elaborate stonework, the largest Inca temple ever discovered. Today, Raqchi remains home to many farmers, ranchers and artisans. Then, arrive at pristine Lake Titicaca sitting majestically at 12,500 feet above sea level, backed by the snow-capped peaks of Bolivia's Cordillera Real range. This is the highest navigable lake in the world and South America's largest fresh water lake. A box lunch will be provided en route before arriving in Puno for overnight.

**Meals:** Breakfast and Lunch

**Accommodation:** Hotel Royal Inn Puno or similar

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## Day 9

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### Puno 🚗 🚤 Uros Islands on Lake Titicaca 🚤 🚗 Puno

This morning, an excursion by boat transports you from Puno to the fascinating Uros Floating Islands where the indigenous people of the area, the Uros, live on islands that dot the lake. The Uros live very much the same as their ancestors did and still follow the ancient customs and traditions. These islands are completely man-made structures, using the totora reeds from the lake to build the islands and houses. Return to Puno for the remainder of the day at leisure. Or, take the optional tour to the Sillustani Tombs, the pre-Incan burial ground on the shores of Lake Umayo. The tombs here are built above the ground in tower-like structures called chullpas, vestiges of the Colla people before they were conquered by the Incas in the 15th century. Evening is at leisure in Puno.

*Optional Half Day Sillustani Tombs (PM)*

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Accommodation:** Hotel Royal Inn Puno or similar

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## Day 10

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### Puno ✈️ Lima

Transfer to Juliaca airport, for your flight to Lima; the rest of the day is at leisure. Tonight, you bid farewell to your Tour Manager at dinner with Peruvian specialties.

**Meals:** Breakfast and Dinner

**Accommodation:** Jose Antonio Hotel Lima or similar

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## Day 11

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### Lima ✈️ Australia

It's time to check out of your hotel this morning and make your way to the airport for your departure flight. Please note some flights depart shortly after midnight in the very early morning of Day 10 and will require a check out on Day 9. To get to the airport from the hotel allow approximately 4 hours prior to your flight time.

**Meals:** Breakfast and Inflight Menu

## Inclusions & Exclusions

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### Inclusions

- Return International Economy Class Airfares to Peru with LATAM or QANTAS
  - Fly from Melbourne, Sydney or Brisbane  
(Other departure cities are available, please contact us for current prices)
  - All intra-flights: Lima to Cuzco & Juliaca to Lima
- 9 nights Accommodation in 4 and 5 star Hotels, based on twin share
  - 3 nights Lima – Jose Antonio Hotel, Lima or similar
  - 2 nights Urubamba Sacred Valley – San Agustin Urubamba Hotel, Urubamba or similar
  - 2 nights Cuzco – Jose Antonio Cuzco Hotel, Cuzco or similar
  - 2 nights Puno – Hotel Royal Inn Puno, Puno or similar
  - Hotel taxes, fees & service charges
  - Hotel portorage
- 14 meals – 9 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 3 dinners
- Sightseeing as per itinerary in modern motor coach
  - Entrance fees as per itinerary
- Services of English-speaking tour manager throughout
- Services of English-speaking local guides

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Due to the high elevation, travel in the Peruvian highlands may cause some passengers to experience the temporary effects of altitude sickness. If you have any concerns about traveling to higher than your accustomed elevation, please consult your healthcare provider.

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### Exclusions

- Visa fees
- Travel insurance (strongly recommended)
- Meals & drinks not mentioned
- Any additional requests
- Tipping

**Group Size:** The typical group size on this program is on average 40 guests.

**Single Supplement:** Solo supplement is \$1399 for this program.

**Extending your stay:** If you want to arrive earlier, stay later and/or add on other travel arrangements while you are in South America, please contact our friendly Customer Service team.

**Travel Insurance:** We recommend Covermore travel insurance. To quote and book, please click [HERE](#).

### Is this the Right Trip for you?

This active program covers a good amount of ground each day. Expect from two to three hours of walking on some touring days. The pace is moderate, however, you will encounter some uneven surfaces, stairs, steps and significant slopes. When visiting Machu Picchu, please be aware that walking sticks are not allowed in some areas of the archaeological site and must be carried in a backpack. Prescriptions are required for walking sticks to be allowed at the Machu Picchu archaeological site and must be rubber tipped. Also selfie sticks are forbidden and only folding umbrellas are allowed. A few early wake-ups, some at 5AM or 6AM, as well as one long 10-hour drive to Puno, are necessary to cover the territory. The altitude, 11,000 feet in Cuzco and 12,400 feet in Puno, may be a consideration for those who have heart conditions or are otherwise affected by height. We suggest you check with your health-care provider before signing up for this tour. Some hotels in Urubamba and Puno are built in the traditional local style and have no air conditioning. During heat waves, these hotels can become uncomfortable, even at higher elevations.