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TRIP DETAILS
10 days / 9 nts - Peru

Departures Daily
Trip Ref 2193

ITINERARY IN BRIEF

PRICES FROM $1,527

Essential Peru

A comprehensive tour of the highlights of a country steeped in fascinating history and culture. From the bustle and colonial heart of Lima travel to the wonders of Lake Titicaca, Cuzco and Machu Picchu, seeing the stunning vestiges and contempory reflections of civilizations quite different from our own.

Day 1: Arrive in Lima
Upon arrival in Lima, assistance at the airport and transfer to selected hotel.

(Included meals: N/A)

Day 2: Lima - Cuzco
Fly from Lima to Cusco, assistance and transfer to your selected hotel. Rest of day at leisure to acclimatize.

(Included meals: Breakfast)

Day 3: Cuzco
Morning at leisure, then later this afternoon explore the magical capital of the Incas on a tour including a visit to

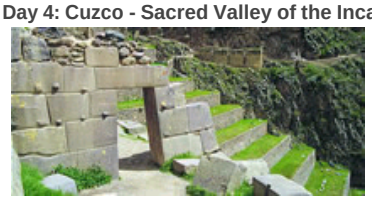
Plaza Regocijo, Plaza de Armas, the Cathedral and the Santo Domingo Convent Monastery.

The Santo Domingo monastery was built over the Koricancha temple, one of the most important temples devoted to worship of the sun. According to the chronicles, it was covered in gold sheet and filled with golden representations of nature. Then walk around the old town with its very narrow streets.

After seeing the most interesting sites of the city, you will drive to the countryside outside Cusco to visit some of the remarkable inca ruins in the area: the cult centre of Sacsayhuaman, the temple and amphitheatre of Kenko and the Red Fortress of Puca Pucara. Finally the tour will take you to visit Tambomachy, It consists of a series of aqueducts, canals and waterfalls that run through the terraced rocks. The function of the site is uncertain: it may have served as a military outpost guarding the approaches to Cusco, as a spa resort for the Incan political elite, or both. Overnight in Cuzco.

(Included meals: Breakfast)

Day 4: Cuzco - Sacred Valley of the Incas



Take a trip to Urubamba, the Sacred Valley of the Incas. You will begin your tour

visiting Awanakancha, where South American camelidae are bred. Learn about the llamas;, alpacas; and vicunas; superb fibres, as well as the ancient weaving techniques which are still in use. Proceed to Pisac where you will have the opportunity to bargain with vendors at its local handicrafts market. Enjoy lunch at a pleasant hostelry in the countryside and continue to the Inca fortress of Ollantaytambo. The site was built just as the Spaniards arrived and evidence of how it was is still visible.
Included meals : Breakfast, Lunch)

Day 5: Sacred Valley of the Incas - Machu Picchu
Transfer to Ollanta station to board the train to Machu Picchu. Upon arrival to Aguas Calientes you will take a 25-minute motorcoach ride to "The Lost City of the Incas", which was discovered by American explorer Hiram Bingham in 1911. Located on the left bank of the Vilcanota river lies the wonderful old city of Machu Picchu, which in quechua means "Old Mountain". According to research, Machu Picchu would have been one of the vacation residences of Pachacutec, the first Inca emperor between 1438 and 1470.

However, some of its finest buildings and the evident ceremonial purpose of the main access road to the village, prove that it was used as a religious shrine.

Machu Picchu is considered both a masterpiece of architecture and engineering because of its unique architectural and landscaping features. Prominent constructions among its buildings are the Main Square, the Royal Quarters, the Temple of the Three Windows, the Circular Towers, the Sacred Sun Dial and the Burial Grounds, among others of singular architecture and importance.Your guide will narrate and explain all about this splendid citadel, which is a truly amazing experience. After the guided tour you will have free time to stroll around the archaeological site. Lunch at café Inkaterra. Overnight in Aguas Calientes.

(Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch)

Day 6: Machu Picchu - Cuzco

We strongly recommend that you wake up early to see the sunrise over Machu Picchu. (Optional): For hiking enthusiasts, we suggest a walk up to the peak of Wayna Picchu. This is a once-in-a-lifetime sight. Afternoon rail to Ollantaytambo station, then van or car transportation to Cusco. Upon arrival, transfer to the selected hotel.

(Included meals: Breakfast)

Day 7: Cuzco - Puno

Transfer from the hotel to the bus station. Assistance on departure

Bus ride to Puno along the dramatic landscapes of the highland plateau, with occasional views of tiny Andean villages and herds of llamas and vicunas. We will stop at Andahuaylillas, where there is a beautiful baroque church built at the beginning of the XVIIth century.

It is very well known thanks to its beautiful mural paintings.We will make a second stop at Raqchi, where there is an Inca temple built to worship Wiracocha, one of the most important Inca gods. Finally, we will stop at the archaeological site of Pukara (200BC-AD300).We will lunch at a restaurant en route. Upon arrival in Puno, assistance at the bus station and transfer to the hotel.

(Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch)

Optional on this day travel by train from Cuzco to Puno, click on the link below for schedules and pricing on the Andean Explorer Train

Day 8: Lake Titicaca

Motor-boat ride on Lake Titicaca (with a surface area of 8,300 km2) to visit the unique floating islands of the Uros. For hundreds of years the livelihood of this "Water

Tribe" is based on the benefits of a unique plant: the totora reed (Scyrpus totora). They use it to build their homes, boats and even the floating islands they live on, periodically adding new layers of reeds. They also use it in their highly developed weaving. Continue to the natural island of Taquile on Lake Titicaca inhabited by quechua-speaking natives who have developed, through generations, both an efficient and original social system and a fine hand weaving technique.

(Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch)

Day 9: Puno - Lima

Transfer to Juliaca airport, assistance on departure flight. Upon arrival in Lima transfer to selected hotel. Then later this afternoon you will do the tour of the "City of the Kings". Panoramic visit to the Huaca Pucllana archaeological center that operated between 5th and 8th centuries C.E. Proceed to the Historical Center,see the Plaza Mayor surrounded by the Government Palace, the City Hall, the Cathedral and the Archbishop´s Palace. Proceed to the San Francisco Monastery, a masterpiece of Colonial architecture. Drive through the residential districts of Miraflores and San Isidro where you will enjoy a magnificent view of the Pacific Ocean. Overnight at your selected hotel.

(Included meals: Breakfast)

Day 10: Fly out from Lima

Transfer to the airport, assistance on departure flight.

(Included meals: Breakfast)

Prices are per person

		REGULAR GROUP TOURS		
Hotels 2009	**City**	**Single**	**Double**	**Triple**
Standard				
Carmel	Lima	$1,873	$1,416	$1,374
La Hacienda	Puno			
Eco Inn	Cusco			
Casona Yucay	Urubamba			
Hatuchay Towers	Machu Picchu			

Superior				
Jose Antonio Jose Antonio Novotel Sol y Luna Sumaq	Lima Puno Cusco Urubamba Machu Picchu	$2,673	$1,882	$1,810
Deluxe 2				
Swissotel Libertador Isla Esteves Libertador Sol y Luna Machu Picchu Pueblo	Lima Puno Cusco Urubamba Machu Picchu	$3,653	$2,400	$2,336
Deluxe 1				
Miraflores Park Libertador Isla Esteves Monasterio Sol y Luna Machu Picchu Sanctuary Lodge	Lima Puno Cusco Urubamba Machu Picchu	$5,182	$3,136	

*** Rates subject to change, without notice**
***Prices to December 31, 2011**

Includes:
- 2 nights accommodation in Lima
- 3 nights accommodation in Cusco
- 1 night accommodation in Sacred Valley
- 1 night accommodation in Aguas Calientes
- 2 nights accommodation in Puno
- Daily breakfasts at hotels.
- Private transfers airport/hotel/airport
- Shared services with Official English/Spanish speaking local guide on tours.
- Lunch at Café Inkaterra
- Entrante fees on sightseeing tours
- Second entrance to Machu Picchu + bus
- Touristic bus from Cusco to Puno
- Full day Uros & Taquile with lunch

Does not include:
Domestic air fares Lima --> Cusco --->Puno--->Lima. International (US$30.74) and domestic ($8.72) airport departure taxes Meals not mentioned in the itinerary, p ersonal expenses (laundry, beverages, communications, etc). Andean Explorer train from Puno to Cuzo.

Important:
-For single travelers, a supplement fee will apply, please consult with your travel coordinator.

-For all those guests wanting to hike Huyna Picchu located inside the Machu Picchu site, it is important that you advise us so we can purchase the entrance prior to your hike. The cost of the entrance is $15pp. This is Day 6 of this itinerary.

In addition, there are two groups of 200 people each and the schedules are as follows:

1st group: Between 7 - 8 am
2nd group: Between 10-11am

Punctuality is important as you may loose your tickets, and there is no restriction as to the amount of time spent at the top of the mountain.

Suplement for private services:
- Min 1 passenger USD. 1,026
- Min 2 passengers USD. 645
- Min 3-4 passengers USD. 268

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Ways to contact us

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