# LatinDiscover.com

rediscovering the New World

T: 305-720-2539 F: 305-716-9216 info@latindiscover.com

TRIP DETAILS 21 days / 20 nts - Multi-country

Departures Daily Trip Ref 2865

ITINERARY IN BRIEF



# South America Intense

# PRICES FROM \$3,747

Day 1: Arrive in Lima
On arrival in Lima, transfer to your hotel. Overnight in Lima

#### Day 2: Lima (city tour)

A half day city tour of the "City of the Kings". Panoramic visit to the Huaca Pucllana, archaeological center that was active between the 5th and 8th centuries A.D. Proceed to San Isidro and enjoy a panoramic view of the Olivar of San Isidro, that stands out among the parks of the hemisphere and symbolizes the virreynal and republican tradition of this district, highlighted by its magnificent olives dating from virreynal times. Continue to the Historical Centre of Lima and see the Plaza Mayor, the Government Palace, the City Hall, the Cathedral and the Archbishop's Palace. Then on to the San Francisco Monastery, a masterpiece of colonial architecture housing important colonial paintings. At the end of the tour, transfer to your hotel. Overnight in Lima.

(Included meals: breakfast)

### Day 3: Lima - Cusco (city tour)

Transfer to the airport for departure flight to Cusco. Upon arrival in Cusco, assistance at the airport and transfer to the hotel.

In the afternoon, half day city tour of Cusco, including the Santo Domingo convent monastery. This former Colonial monastery was previously the Korikancha temple, one of the most important temples devoted to the worship of the sun. According to the chronicles, it was covered in gold Leaf and filled with golden representations of nature. Visit also the Cathedral, the most important temple of the city which houses the headquarters of the Diocese. After touring the most interesting sites of the city, you will be driven to the countryside outside Cusco to visit some of the remarkable Inca



ruins in the area. Included are the cult centre of Sacsayhuaman, the temple and amphitheatre of Kenko, and the Red Fortress of Puca Pucara. At the end of the tour, transfer to the hotel. Overnight Cusco.

(Included meals: breakfast)

#### Day 4: Cusco - Sacred Valley

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 Ilamas;, alpacas and vicuñas; 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. Overnight in the Sacred Valley

(Included meals: breakfast, lunch)

# Day 5: Sacred Valley - 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. Lunch at cafe Inkaterra. Overnight in Aguas Calientes.

(Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch).

#### Day 6: Machu Picchu - Cusco

We strongly recommend that you wake up early to see the sunrise over Machu Picchu. This is a once-in-a-lifetime sight. Optional: For hiking enthusiasts, we suggest a walk up to the peak of Huayna Picchu.In the afternoon return by train to Ollantaytambo train station then car or van transfer to the Hotel in Cusco. Overnight in Cusco.

(Included meals : Breakfast)

#### Day 7: Cusco - Lima - Santiago

Transfer from the hotel to the airport. Assistance on departure flight. Upon arrival in Lima, assistance to connecting internacional flight. Arrival in Santiago and private transfer from the airport to the hotel. Overnight in Santiago.

(Included meals : Breakfast)

### Day 8: Santiago (city tour)

Half day City tour, pick up from your hotel to explore the historic and modern sights of Santiago de Chile. We will start our trip at the Alameda Bernardo OHiggins, Santiago main avenue, visiting La Moneda, the Government Palace, where your guide will explain to you the historical and actual meaning of this place. Following this we will enjoy a walk through the pedestrian streets of Huérfanos and Ahumada, where the main commercial activity of the city is concentrated. Afterwards we will visit the famous Plaza de Armas, the main square of the city, which is surrounded by the Metropolitan Cathedral and other historical buildings such as the City Hall and the Post Office, both dating from colonial times. We will continue by visiting the Santa Lucia hill, the hill upon which the Spanish founded Santiago in 1541.

It is a lone steep rock, with many plants and an antique building rising steeply from the city below.



From here you can see the Parque Forestal (park) on one side and the Mapocho River on the other. We will cross the river to visit Bellavista, the cultural and artistic neighborhood of Santiago. This tour is offered on a daily basis with hotel pick ups starting at 15:00 h. Return to your hotel. Overnight in Santiago.

(Included meals: Breakfast)

#### Day 9: Santiago (Valparaiso & Viña del Mar)

Full day excursion to Valparaiso, the oldest and most important port of Chile and to Vina del Mar, the famous beach resort. Go on a full day



excursion to Valparaíso, the oldest and most important port of Chile and to Viña del Mar, the famous beach resort. Pick up at your hotel to drive towards the Pacific Ocean, passing the agricultural valleys of Curacavi and Casablanca finally reaching Valparaíso. The port?s picturesque layout, enhanced by the surrounding hills that seem to dive into the ocean, remind us of once the most important maritime destination in the Pacific coast before the Strait of Panama was opened in 1914. We will visit the downtown area with its new government house, the Plaza Sotomayor, the Plaza Victoria, the cathedral and the harbour area. Afterwards, we will discover the colourful hill

neighbourhoods. Here, high above the city, there is a fantastic agglomeration of brightly painted houses and a fantastic view over the city. The upper and lower parts of the city are connected with 16 funicular railways constructed around the turn of the century when the city experienced tremendous growth. Travelling north along the coastline we will reach the city of Viña del Mar, the most famous and visited beach resort of the region. Its many parks of huge trees and palms gave Viña del Mar the well-deserved name of ?Garden City?. We will visit the beautiful park Quinta Vergara and its amphitheatre, the beaches and the Casino, built in 1932 (La Sebastiana-Neruda's museumentrance fee not included & closed on Mondays). In the afternoon, return to your hotel in Santiago. Overnight in Santiago.

(Included meals: Breakfast)

## Day 10: Santiago - Buenos Aires

A private transfer from the hotel to the Santiago airport for your international flight. Arrival and meeting at the Ezeiza International Airport. Transfer to the hotel. Overnight in Buenos Aires.

(Included meals: Breakfast)

### Day 11: Buenos Aires (city tour)

Depart on a half day tour to the most important places in the Capital Federal. The tour includes the National Congress, the Metropolitan

Cathedral, Government House and the area of Plaza de Mayo. You will be at the heart of the Tango activity where these sensuous dance is performed in the street for passers by to enjoy in the traditional neighborhood of San Telmo, where this typical dance dwells. Then you will visit La Boca and stop at this colorful suburb of the city adopted years ago as his home by the first Italian immigrants. Today is home for important artists. Then, a visit to Palermo is scheduled, a residential neighborhood with parks and elegant buildings. Finally, you will visit the sophisticated Recoleta, one of the most exclusive neighborhoods in which among other attractions, you can take



a look at the famous cemetery alongside fine restaurants and cafes. Free time in the afternoon. Overnight in Buenos Aires.

(Included meals : Breakfast)

Day 12: Buenos Aires (day at leisure)

Day at leisure to explore on your own or for optional tours: we recommend the Fiesta Gaucha: a full day trip to a typical Argentine estancia, where you can watch Argentine gaucho skills in cattle breeding and horseback riding and enjoy the typical Argentine barbecue, the "asado". Overnight in Buenos Aires.

(Included meals : Breakfast)

### Day 13: Buenos Aires - El Calafate

Transfer to the airport to board flight to El Calafate (spanish speaking driver). Reception at Calafate airport and transfer to the hotel. Overnight in El Calafate.

(Included meals : Breakfast)

#### Day 14: El Calafate (Perito Moreno Glacier)

Full day excursion to the Perito Moreno Glacier (entrance), you will leave in the morning to visit the renowned Perito Moreno glacier, unique



on the planet in its constant forward movement. Along the road you will discover many Andean precordillera sites that are worth sight seen or recording on camera and by the Argentino Lake you will access the National Park "Los Glaciares". Along Brazo Rico River you will start to spot the floating icebergs until you finally be able to grasp in all its awe this natural wonder considered World Heritage by the United Nations. You will take the paths and enjoy some time to observe and to have lunch (not included). Then, in the afternoon you will go back to the hotel. Overnight in El Calafate.

(Included meals : Breakfast)

### Day 15: El Calafate (day at leisure)

Day at leisure for optional activities. Overnight in El Calafate.

(Included meals : Breakfast)

### Day 16: El Calafate - Buenos Aires

Transfer to the airport to board flight to Buenos Aires. Reception in Buenos Aires and transfer to the hotel (spanish speaking driver). Overnight in Buenos Aires.

(Included meals : Breakfast)

# Day 17: Buenos Aires - Rio de Janeiro

Transfer to Ezeiza International airport to board the international flight (spanish speaking driver). Upon arrival in Rio, our representative will be waiting for you at the airport and he will take you to your hotel. Overnight in Rio de Janeiro.

(Included meals : Breakfast)

# Day 18: Rio de Janeiro (Corcovado, dinner show)

After breakfast, a half day tour to Corcovado. Depart from the hotel to visit the Christ Statue, recently elected as one of the seven modern

wonders of the world. The statue sits 2,300 ft. above sea level, atop Corcovado Hill. Following a scenic drive along the Rodrigo de Freitas Lagoon, we will arrive at the foot of the hill, where we embark on a small train which climbs the beautiful mountainside. Upon reaching the top, visitors will experience a panoramic view of Rio de Janeiro and discover why it is known as the "Marvelous City"! The tour also includes a drive along Rio's famous beaches. Afternoon at Leisure.

At night you will enjoy the Rio by night show at Palataforma with BBQ dinner. Enjoy a spectacular samba show with singers and dancers in elaborate costumes who present Brazil's rich folkloric traditions and capture the famous rhythms of Carnaval. Overnight in Rio de Janeiro.

(Included meals : Breakfast, Dinner)

### Day 19: Rio de Janeiro (Tijuca Forest and Sugar loaf)

A Half day Jeep Tour Tijuca Forest. Following your pick-up in open-top jeeps at your hotel, you will be taken to the stunning Tijuca Atlantic Forest, the largest urban forest in the world. We will make stops at the Chinese Lookout with magnificent views of Ipanema and Copacabana beaches, Guanabara Bay and Sugar Loaf. During the tour, guests can casually observe tropical animals like monkeys, sloths and exotic birds. On the way back to the hotel, we will stop at the Pepino Beach to watch the hang gliders fly through the air. Duration: 4 hours

Later you will take a half day tour to Sugar Loaf. Over a million tourists a year visit the world famous "Pão de Açúcar", or Sugar Loaf Mountain in English, which has become an iconic symbol of the city of Rio de Janeiro. Rising up from small peninsula at the entrance of Guanabara Bay, its name is said to refer to its resemblance to the traditional shape of concentrated refined sugar loaf. The tour is done in two steps by glass cable-cars. The first cable-car takes passengers to the top of Urca Hill, which rises 215 meters above sea level and offers spectacular views of the entire bay its islands. From Urca Hill, passengers continue in a second cable car to the top of Sugar Loaf which



rises 395 meters above sea level and offers a 360 degree view of the entire city including Botafogo and Copacabana Beaches, the Corcovado and downtown Rio. Overnight in Rio de Janeiro.

(Included meals : Breakfast)

Day 20: Rio de Janeiro (free day)

Day at leisure. Overnight in Rio de Janeiro.

(Included meals : Breakfast)

Day 21: Fly out from Brazil

Transfer from the hotel to the airport.

(Included meals : Breakfast)

### 2009 Price per person \$3,714

Quoted Hotels: Jose Antonio-Lima, Novotel-Cusco, Sol y Luna-Urubamba, Sumaq-MachuPicchu, Galerias-Santiago, Melia Buenos Aires-Buenos Aires, El Patagon-El Calafate, Blue Tree-Bariloche, Mar Palace-Rio

(Prices subject to change without previous notice)

**Included:** accommodations with breakfast, meal/services as per the itinerary. Services on shared basis with English / Spanish speaking guide (except when mentioned).

Not included: International/domestic air fare, airport taxes, entrance fee/ meals/services not mentioned, early check in/ late check out at hotels, gratuities, personal expenses.

#### Notes

- Prices per person in US dollars.
- This program may be altered depending on the airline schedule.
- Services are subject to the availability/rates at the moment of the reservation.
- Specific properties may be replaced for others of same quality.
- Prices do not apply on Easter, Christmas, New Year 's Eve and Carnival weeks
- We recommend you check well in advance with the Consulates near your country, to find out if there are any special requirements that you will need to enter these countries (such as Visa, vaccination, etc).
- In some cities in Brazil, like Rio de Janeiro, Salvador, São Paulo etc the hotels charge a Tourism City Tax (per room and per night), on behalf of the Conventions Bureau. Prices vary depending on hotel category, from USD\$1.50 to \$6). These taxes are not included on hotel rates and may change without previous notice. (Hotels charge this tax directly).
- The itineraries are planned with great care, although, for operational reasons, it may be necessary to change the sequence of activities in the itinerary or the specified route, and though such cases are exceptional, in general the itinerary should be treated only as a basic guideline.

Latin Discover.com

Ways to

contact us

email: info@latindiscover.com or Skype: latindiscover

Tollfree: 1-866-369-8046 USA

Tel: 305 720 2539 USA, (506) 2290 4017 Costa Rica