

Walking with the Incas

Country(ies): Peru

Tour type: Small Group

Transport: Local buses, sleeper bus, train, boat & flights

Group size: Min: 2 | Max: 14

Days: 19 days

Start Location: Lima, Peru

End Location: Lima, Peru

Meals: Breakfasts - 16, Lunches - 6, Dinners - 6

Highlights:

Exotic birds & marine life of Ballestas Islands, Oasis of Huacachina, Nazca Lines, colonial Arequipa, quaint Cuzco, majestic Machu Picchu, The Amazon



Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive into Lima

Upon arrival our staff will meet you at the airport and transfer you to your hotel in Lima for the start of your trip.

OVERNIGHT: Lima Hotel

MEALS: None

EXTRAS: Extra Day in Lima - pre-tour Single room supplement (PRSGWI)

Day 2: Lima, drive to Ballestas Islands

Departing Lima, our tour begins with a trip south to the Ballestas Islands nestled in the Paracas National Reserve. We enjoy a boat ride here to view the incredible concentration of rare and exotic birds and sea mammals which make this one of the most important marine reserves in the world.

OVERNIGHT: Paracas hotel

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 3: Drive through the Ica Desert to the Oasis of Huacachina

This morning we make the short drive through the Ica Desert to the heart of Peru's wine region. Visiting the Tacama winery we have the chance to sample the local wine as well as the country's national drink, Pisco. We then head to the nearby Oasis of Huacachina - a palm fringed lake surrounded by sand dunes where we can relax on the beach and enjoy a swim before we take things up a notch with a thrill inducing dune buggy ride over the massive sand dunes. This evening enjoy the desert sunset as we make camp and sleep under the stars.

OVERNIGHT: Huacachina camping

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 4: Visit the Nazca Lines & Chauchilla Cemetery, drive to Arequipa

Today we travel to one of South America's most mysterious sites as we visit the intriguing Nazca Lines. Believed to have been present for over 2,000 years these huge figures carved into the desert floor were only discovered 80 years ago from the air and as such there are many contrasting theories as to what they actually signify - feel free to ask the locals! We then head to the Chauchilla Cemetery famous for its well-preserved mummies before saying goodbye to the Atacama Desert to begin our climb into the Andes towards Arequipa.

OVERNIGHT: On board overnight coach

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 5: Arequipa and the Colca Canyon

The next four days are spent in and around Colca Canyon and the surrounding areas. We include an overnight visit to the Colca Canyon, which at 900m is not only one of the deepest in the world but also the home of the majestic Condors. Here you can view the condors circling lazily in the thermals rising from the canyon floor. Some of the other activities available to arrange in this beautiful part of Peru include white water rafting, cycling, horse riding and trekking.

OVERNIGHT: Arequipa hotel

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 6: Arequipa and the Colca Canyon

Full day in and around Colca Canyon to enjoy optional activities including white water rafting, cycling, horse riding and trekking.

OVERNIGHT: Arequipa hotel

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 7: Arequipa and the Colca Canyon

Full day in and around Colca Canyon to enjoy optional activities including white water rafting, cycling, horse riding and trekking.

OVERNIGHT: Arequipa hotel

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 8: Arequipa and the Colca Canyon

Full day in and around Colca Canyon to enjoy optional activities including white water rafting, cycling, horse riding and trekking.

OVERNIGHT: Arequipa hotel

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 9: Arrive in Cuzco, Sacred Valley of the Incas tour

An overnight coach journey carries us through the Andes to Cuzco - the adventure capital of Peru and starting point of the Inca trail. We will be based here for the next 7 days as we seek to explore the dramatic landscape and learn about the unique cultures that have existed here for thousands of years. Arriving early morning we have chance to tour the stunning Sacred Valley of the Incas, home to temples, terrace fields and bustling local markets before returning to Cuzco for a good night's sleep in preparation of our trek the next day.

OVERNIGHT: Cuzco hotel

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 10: Begin Inca Trail, trek to Machu Picchu

We head out early from Cuzco to the Urubamba Valley from where we begin our 4-day trek along the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu. A stunning combination of panoramic views, Inca ruins and magnificent mountains make this one of the most exotic adventures in the world. Reaching over 4,200m in places the trail winds up through lush valleys and tiny, hospitable villages where we spend the nights. All guides and porters are included on the trek.

OVERNIGHT: Basic accommodation & camping

MEALS: Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Day 11: Trek to Machu Picchu

Full day spent trekking along the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu.

OVERNIGHT: Basic accommodation & camping

MEALS: Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Day 12: Trek to Machu Picchu

Full day spent trekking along the Inca trail to Machu Picchu.

OVERNIGHT: Basic accommodation & camping

MEALS: Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Day 13: Trek to Machu Picchu, train to Cuzco

Today we complete our trek to Machu Picchu then we return to Cuzco by train.

OVERNIGHT: Cuzco hotel

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 14: Cuzco, free time

To help recover from our trek we have 2 free days in Cuzco. Feel free to explore more of the city and its museums and churches or look for local crafts from Alpaca woollen jumpers to Andean musical instruments and local jewellery. If you still have the energy you can arrange an adventurous white water rafting trip on either the Urubamba or Apurimac River.

OVERNIGHT: Cuzco hotel

MEALS: Breakfast

EXTRAS:

Day 15: Cuzco, free time

Full day free to explore more of Cuzco or enjoy some of the many optional activities available.

OVERNIGHT: Cuzco hotel

MEALS: None

EXTRAS:

Day 16: Cuzco, fly to Puerto Maldonado, arrive in Tambopata - Candamo Reserve

We depart Cuzco today by plane and fly to the town of Puerto Maldonado on the edge of the Tambopata - Candamo Reserve. Entering the Reserve by boat we cruise along the Madre de Dios River until we reach our jungle lodge which will be the base for the next 3 nights. In the afternoon join our local knowledgeable guides as they explain the flora and fauna you are likely to see in the jungle.

OVERNIGHT: Jungle lodge

MEALS: Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Day 17: Tambopata, Candamo Reserve, walks and canoe trips

During our time in the reserve our guide will take us on walks and canoe trips to discover the amazing array of plant, bird, animal and insect life in the jungle. We can walk to one of the ox-bow lakes that abound with exotic birdlife or take a boat onto the lake in the hope of seeing giant river otters and caimans. Our guide will teach us about the traditional uses of the plants and trees and point out different types of monkey, macaw and moth!

OVERNIGHT: Jungle lodge

MEALS: Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Day 18: Tambopata, Candamo Reserve, walks and canoe trips

Full day spent enjoying optional jungle activities in the Candamo Reserve.

OVERNIGHT: Jungle lodge

MEALS: Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner

EXTRAS:

Day 19: Transfer to Puerto Maldonado for flight to Lima

We leave the jungle this morning by boat back to Puerto Maldonado where we will board our flight back to the capital Lima.

OVERNIGHT: N/A

MEALS: None

EXTRAS: Extra day in Lima - post-tour

Included:

- Airport transfer on arrival in Lima
- Ballestas Islands boat tour
- Overnight desert camp & barbeque
- Inca Trail Trek to Machu Picchu (4 day trek including all meals and guide)
- Entrance to Machu Picchu
- Return train from Machu Picchu
- Flight back from Cusco to Lima
- 4-day jungle trip (includes all meals, daily excursions, jungle guides, flights to/from the jungle & airport transfers)
- All accommodation (small & simple hotels & guesthouses & 3 nights camping on Inca Trail)
- Meals as per itinerary (approx 40%)
- Services of local tour guides and representatives plus Inca Trail trekking guide
- All local transport

Excluded:

- Airport transfers from internal flights
- Optional excursions as listed in the pre-departure information
- International flights
- End of trip airport transfers
- Meals not specified
- Travel insurance (mandatory, [get quote here](#))
- Entrance fees to sites visited
- Airport Taxes
- Drinks
- Visas
- Tips

Options

Our tours are designed to include all that you need to enjoy a really special time in the destination you're visiting. However, we do also offer some extra options to complement the tour and add some additional sightseeing or activities, or some extra time at either end of the tour.

All accommodation based options (e.g. Single supplements, extra nights, cruise upgrades) should be booked and paid for in advance so that we can make the appropriate arrangements. Other options may either be booked and paid for in advance or while you are on the tour, though we recommend booking in advance to ensure there are no issues with availability.

Many options are priced the same throughout the year, but some may incur single or high season supplements - full details are given on the tour reservation form or on request.

Single room supplement (PRSGWI)

Min numbers: 1

The tour price is based on 2 people sharing twin/double rooms. This option books a single room in all the accommodation throughout the tour. If you are a single traveller and would be happy to share a room, let us know and we will see if we can pair you up with another single traveller of the same sex. If a room share is not available when you book then we will add the single room supplement to your booking and it will be payable with your balance payment unless we have arranged a room share for you by then. If a room share is arranged after you have paid the supplement then we will refund it to you. Room shares are arranged in order of booking.

Note: Single supplement prices may vary seasonally.

Extra Day in Lima - pre-tour

Min numbers: 1

This option adds an extra day to the start of your tour, staying in the same hotel as the main tour itself (subject to availability). Your airport arrival transfer is still included. Prices shown are per person and based on two people sharing.

Note: Single room and peak season supplements apply.

1. Accommodation

We use good quality small & simple hotels & guesthouses on this tour. Tours visiting the Oasis of Huacachina and the Inca trail trek will also include four nights camping.

Accommodation is based on dorm, twin, triple or double en-suite rooms. We will endeavour to give all couples a private double room. Single travellers may choose to pay a single room supplement to guarantee themselves a single room throughout the tour. Alternatively, they may choose to share a room with one or two other travellers of the same sex. If there are no other single travellers available for you to pair up with at the time of your booking, then we will need to add the single supplement to your tour price, but will refund this or deduct it from your balance payment if we are able to pair you up later on.

Please be aware that hotels in Peru can suffer from common problems such as electrical failure, plumbing faults and other technical difficulties and hot water may occasionally be temperamental if a lot of people are using the showers at the same time. This is a possibility throughout all classes of hotels.

On the Classic Inca trail tents are provided and sleeping bags can be hired locally if you don't want to bring your own. The Jungle section includes local guides, mosquito nets, all accommodation, food and drinking water.

2. Transfers

The tour includes a 24-hour airport meet & assist service in Lima airport, your arrival airport-hotel transfer and all other transfers. This does not include a departure transfer on the last day of the tour as the tour ends on arrival at Lima airport.

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Note: Please [download an up-to-date copy](#) of these tour notes shortly before you travel as itineraries and information does change from time to time.
