



## PERU ENCOMPASSED

Set out on a comprehensive exploration of Peru, a country with an intriguing past of mighty empires, towering mountain ranges and rich colonial heritage.

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Tailor-Made Journeys, Suggested Itineraries, Luxury Rail Journeys



Latin America, Peru



15 days from AU\$18,995 pp



Private

## Journey Overview

Set out on a comprehensive exploration of Peru, a country with an intriguing past of mighty empires, towering mountain ranges and rich colonial heritage. You'll visit spectacular ancient cities built by the Incan civilisation and lost to the world for centuries, culminating in the citadel of Machu Picchu. Take in the colonial charms of Cusco and immerse yourself in Lima's vibrant culinary scene, journey by train through the awe-inspiring Andes to Lake Titicaca, shrouded in myth and legend, encounter the breathtaking landscapes of Colca Canyon – one of the planet's deepest – and explore Arequipa, the legendary "White City".

### Journey Highlights

- Explore the magnificent ruins of Machu Picchu alongside a top local guide
- In the Sacred Valley of the Incas, visit a remote village seemingly frozen in time and witness the ancient agricultural methods still used in this challenging, mountainous environment
- Journey from Cusco to UNESCO-listed Lake Titicaca in style on board the Andean Explorer, A Belmond Train
- Board a traditional boat to the Uros, extraordinary man-made islands created from carefully woven reeds
- Behold the spectacular scenery of Colca Canyon and observe condors in flight
- Be Captivated by Arequipa with its picturesque colonial architecture, majestic Andean backdrop, and vibrant cultural heritage



## Itinerary

### **Day 1: Arrive Lima**

Welcome to the City of Kings. Perched on cliffs by the Pacific Ocean, Lima enjoys wide acclaim on the world food scene. Receive a warm welcome by your A&K representative and transfer to your boutique hotel in Miraflores.

#### ***Atemporal***

### **Day 2: Lima**

Today meet your AK guide and enjoy a half day tour of Lima, starting in Plaza Mayor, the original site upon which Lima was founded. admire architectural masterpieces including the historic Cathedral, the grand Presidential Palace and Santo Domingo Convent.

After you have explored the historic centre, travel across Lima to the Larco Museum where the extensive private collection of pre-Inca ceramics is considered to be the largest of its kind in the world. It showcases remarkable chronological galleries providing an excellent overview on 3,000 years of development of Peruvian Pre-Columbian History. For an unforgettable experience, Larco is one of the few museums in the world where visitors can also choose to enter the storage area with its 45,000 classified archaeological objects.

#### ***Atemporal | Meals: B***

### **Day 3: Lima - Cusco - Sacred Valley**

Transfer to the airport for your flight to Cusco and onwards by road to the Sacred Valley of the Incas (2,900m). It is difficult to imagine anywhere better to soak up the tranquillity of the mountain-ringed valley than your luxury property. Take time to acclimatise the local way - with rest and coca tea.

#### ***Sol y Luna | Meals: B***

### **Day 4: Sacred Valley**

This morning, experience a unique visit to an Andean highland community to meet local Quechua-speaking farmers and weavers. This personal encounter introduces you to the lifestyle and traditions of these Incan descendants. Experience complete cultural immersion as you join in the daily activities and discover how local communities live today. Learn how vibrant food is being cooked in wood-fired, mud-brick stoves and delve into the ancient agricultural methods used for centuries in this challenging Andean mountain environment.

Afterward visit the dramatic salt mines of Maras. These evaporation ponds — numbering 6,000 in total — have been used to produce salt here since pre-Inca times, and the natural colour variation of the pools, staggered in terraces down the side of the canyon, make them a breathtakingly beautiful sight. Continue on to Moray, where a mysterious Inca archaeological site is located. The ruins of the circular agricultural terraces are thought to have been used by the Incas to determine the optimal conditions for growing crops.

***Sol y Luna | Meals: B***

### **Day 5: Ollantaytambo - Machu Picchu**

Begin your pilgrimage to Machu Picchu (2,400m), stopping en route at the imposing fortress of Ollantaytambo, where the Incas celebrated their greatest victory over the invading Spanish. Board the train and sit back and relax and absorb the majestic Andean landscape as you wind through the mountains and cloud forest to the lost city of Machu Picchu. Overlooking the raging Urubamba River and discovered by American explorer Hiram Bingham in a hidden tangle of trees, the true history of Machu Picchu will forever remain an enigma, as the Incas left no written records. After roaming the magnificent ruins with your private expert guide, there is time to explore on your own. Tonight, stay in an intimate styled Andean village with terraced hills, waterfalls, stone pathways. Relax in a hidden corner or indulge in an invigorating spa based on a mystical Andean approach.

***Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel | Meals: BD***

**Day 6: Machu Picchu - Cusco**

Rise with the sun to walk through Machu Picchu in the early morning mist before the crowds arrive, an experience some consider the spiritual highlight of the journey. Or, for superior views across the ruins, pre-book to climb further to the highest mountain, Huayna Picchu for a dramatically different panorama. Later board the Vistadome train to Ollantaytambo and continue by road to Cusco, the former ancient capital of the Inca Empire.

Perched among the Andes at an elevation of 3,400m, Cusco stands as one of Peru's most enchanting cities. Its landscape is adorned with Inca temples, churches, museums, and colonial palaces, woven together with a vibrant blend of Spanish and Quechua heritage.

***Palacio Nazarenas / Meals: B*****Day 7: Cusco**

This morning, discover Cusco on a city tour that includes the architecturally stunning cathedral on the Plaza de Armas and the ornate Santo Domingo Temple, a 16th-century Dominican church built on the foundations of the Koricancha, the Incas' principal religious building, dedicated to the worship of the sun. Continue to the well-preserved ruins of Sacsayhuaman, a testament to Incan architectural skill. This imposing fortress, which witnessed the greatest battle between the Spanish and the Incas, is compiled from colossal stones and overlooks the red-tiled roofs of Cusco.

***Palacio Nazarenas / Meals: B*****Day 8: Cusco**

Enjoy a day at leisure. You may choose to continue to explore the city, walk the streets of the bohemian San Blas area, or to head out to visit the ruins and villages of Pikillacta and Andahuaylillas. The more intrepid may want to visit famous Rainbow Mountain, a striking geological landmark renowned for its colourful stripes which are made up of layers of 14 different minerals.

***Palacio Nazarenas / Meals: B***

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### **Day 9: Cusco - Lake Titicaca**

Begin a relaxing journey by rail from Cusco to Lake Titicaca, when you board the Andean Explorer, A Belmond Train. Settle down and unwind in your stylish suite as you roll southeast toward Puno. Savour your first lunch on board in one of the elegant dining cars, sampling refined Andean specialties served with contemporary flair. Alight at Tinta Station to discover Raqchi, a one-of-a-kind Incan archaeological site and considered one of the most important constructions of the Inca Empire, characterised by its peculiar and extraordinary architectural technique.

Enjoy views of the stunning La Raya Mountain range before preparing for an elegant dinner on board. Afterward, you may wish to head to the observation car for a chat with your fellow passengers as the train continues to Lake Titicaca, where it stops for the night.

***Andean Explorer, A Belmond Train | Meals: BLD***

### **Day 10: Lake Titicaca**

Awaken early to catch the breathtaking sunrise across Lake Titicaca, and enjoy a refreshing hike in the Raya to meet a local family before breakfast on board. Disembark to explore the eclectic beauty and rich diversity of life on Lake Titicaca, the largest lake in South America and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Embark by traditional boat to the Uros, extraordinary artificial islands created from carefully woven reeds that are constantly renewed. Then continue to Taquile Island for lunch before a visit to the beautiful Collata Beach.

Back on board your train, enjoy afternoon tea as you depart for the Saracocha lagoon. En route, savour some refreshing cocktails and canapés. Arrive in Saracocha, where you stop for the night and sit down to a sumptuous dinner.

***Andean Explorer, A Belmond Train | Meals: BLD***

### **Day 11: Lake Titicaca - Sumbay - Colca Canyon**

Watch the sunrise surrounded by the breathtaking scenery of Lake Lagunillas before enjoying a delicious breakfast onboard. Later, visit the Sumbay cave, home to fascinating cave paintings estimated to be over 8,000 years old.

Return to the train for the short ride to Cañahuas where you will leave the train to drive to the Colca Canyon. Stop en route to explore the charming village of Chivay before checking in to your accommodation.

***Puqio | Meals: BD***

**Day 12: Colca Canyon**

Today is dedicated to exploring the Colca Canyon. Travel to Cruz del Condor, where you can marvel at the depth of the canyon which is considered to be one of the planet's deepest, and watch the majestic flight of the condors in their natural habitat. The adventurous may choose to partake in an optional trek from Cruz del Condor to Cruz del Cura.

Continue on to Cabanaconde, a quaint Andean village known for its stunning views of rugged landscapes and terraced fields, traditional architecture, vibrant culture, and friendly locals. On your return, visit the towns of Macca and Yanque, offering a glimpse into traditional Andean life. You will also stop at the viewpoints of Wayra Punku, Antahuilque and Choquetico for breathtaking panoramic vistas of the rugged canyon landscape and the winding Colca River below before returning to Chivay. In the afternoon you have the option of going on a short trek to Uyu Uyu.

***Puqio | Meals: BLD***

**Day 13: Colca Canyon - Arequipa**

Journey overland through the Pampa de Arrieros and the town of Yura as you descend to Arequipa, often called the 'White City' due to the extensive use of sillar, a white volcanic rock, in its architecture.

***Cirqa | Meals: B***

**Day 14: Arequipa**

Explore the colonial district of Yanahuara, renowned for its Andalusian-style churches and picturesque landscape. Proceed to the neighbourhood of San Lázaro to absorb views of the Church of San Francisco with its impressive 18th-century plaza; the architecturally fascinating Main Square surrounded by arcs of white volcanic stone; the façade of the Cathedral; and the Company of Jesus Church with its baroque cloisters.

Afterward, proceed to visit Santa Catalina Monastery. Founded in 1579, it is the most important religious monument in Peru. This sprawling complex offers a fascinating glimpse into the lives of the nuns who once lived within its vibrant walls. Wander through its cobblestone streets, adorned with brightly painted buildings in shades of blue and red, reminiscent of a bygone era. Explore its tranquil courtyards, and marvel at the exquisite colonial architecture and intricate religious artwork that adorns its chapels and halls.

***Cirqa | Meals: B***

**Day 15: Arequipa - Depart Lima**

Transfer to the airport for your flight to Lima and onward connection.

***Meals: B***



# Map



## Accommodation

### Sol y Luna, Sacred Valley



This charming property is our favourite property within the Sacred Valley of the Incas. Set within an exclusive 25 acre estate teeming with birdlife, indigenous and exotic flora, the Casitas blend seamlessly into the landscape. Inside the Casitas, the Peruvian theme continues with fine, handmade local furniture, exquisite bed linen, local tapestries and beautiful frescoed murals by acclaimed artist, Federico Bauer.

Facilities include temperature controlled heating, private marble-tiled bathrooms and 24-hour FREE wireless internet. Deluxe & Premium Deluxe Casitas also feature flat-screen satellite TV, under floor heating, and wood burning fireplaces while the Premium Deluxe Casitas also encompass a private terrace with an outdoor heated Jacuzzi offering amazing views to the Andes. The hotel offers a heated swimming pool, a rejuvenating Spa, equestrian stables and outdoor centre at Wayra, the nearby hacienda.

Two outstanding restaurants serve up Modern Andean cuisine, a distinctive fusion and blend of local Andean authenticity with European flavours and finesse. There is The Terrace serving more casual cuisine, whilst a couple of lounges and Pisco Bars offer places for relaxation. An exclusive wine cellar is also available for private gastronomical experiences of food and wine pairing.

Sol y Luna's unique attraction is their outdoor centre and hacienda Wayra, located right next door to the main hotel. Adventure activities from Wayra include horseback riding on Peruvian 'Paso' horses, mountain biking, hiking, paragliding, quad biking, canoeing on Lake Huaypo and rafting on the Urubamba River. Cultural activities include cooking workshops and demonstrations, traditional weaving and pottery workshops, theatrical presentations, music and dance shows, and Paso Horse demonstrations.

### **Why we like it**

- Set in mature gardens in the Sacred Valley, the hotel is a perfect base for exploring the nearby Inca sites of Ollantaytambo and Pisac as well as local markets and small Andean villages
- The hotel is renowned for the quality of its food and the two restaurants are overseen by internationally renowned Peruvian chef, Pedro Miguel Schiaffino as Executive Chef and Nacho Selis, the Resident Chef
- There are 43 Casitas, of which the most luxurious are the Premium Deluxe Casitas which encompass open fires as well as private terraces with Jacuzzi pool
- There is a large spa and swimming pool as well as an outdoor centre, Wayra, offering a vast array of activities as well as additional dining options

## Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo



Located just a short shuttle ride from the entrance to Machu Picchu, the lodge serves as an excellent base from which to explore. Skilled artisans built the 85-room hotel using stone, adobe stucco and eucalyptus beams to create a delightful Andean village ambience.

Rooms are large, well equipped and located in one or two-storey whitewashed cottages, reached via stone pathways weaving their way through the tropical gardens. All the rooms and villas feature thick alpaca blankets and handmade wool coverlets, crackling fireplaces and comfortable spaces for sitting and dining, as well as spa-style bathrooms.

This hotel creates an authentic Andean ambience and offers a rare slice of barefoot luxury in this ancient location.

### Why we like it

- Some suites and villas have private terraces with plunge pools
- Inkaterra Machu Picchu is located in a five-hectare cloud forest garden alongside the Vilcanota River and on the edge of the village of Aguas Calientes
- A first-class restaurant boasts stunning views of the rushing Vilcanota River from an outdoor terrace
- The hotel's UNU Spa is one of a kind, offering treatments based on a combination of classical options with a mystical Andean approach
- Other facilities include Café Inkaterra, a bar and gift shop

## Palacio Nazarenas, A Belmond Hotel, Cusco



This former palace and convent is emerging from years of restoration to become one of the city's most exclusive hotels. Located in a peaceful plaza close to Cusco's main square, This intimate luxe- hideaway has just 55 oxygenised suites each with its own private bar where guests (or their private butler) can pour their perfect pisco sour. The property is more contemporary in design than its famous sister hotel - the Monasterio with plenty of modern touches; in addition to satellite TV you'll find a stereo sound system, pre-loaded iPad and free Wifi, complimentary espresso machine, and under floor heating in the bathroom. The patios are landscaped with flowers and herbs watered from fountains and Inca-style stone-lined channels to provide an elegant and calm walk-way to the fabulous rooms.

### Why we like it

- The most exclusive Belmond luxury hotel in Cusco
- Personalized butler service where all guests have their own personal butler who will be on hand for everything from helping you unpack your bags to teaching you how to mix a pisco sour
- Perfectly positioned in the centre of the city close to Cusco's central square (Plaza de Armas) and next to the chic arts quarter of San Blas.
- Houses the city's first outdoor pool and a fabulous spa
- The hotels size means it maintains a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere yet honors its luxurious setting, fabulous rooms and chic service

## Andean Explorer, A Belmond Train



The Andean Explorer offers you the opportunity to slow down the pace of your holiday with classic Belmond hospitality. This once in a lifetime experience will allow you to explore the astonishing Peruvian landscape in comfort and style. With four different types of private cabins offering double, twin and bunk bed options, with the junior suite boasting the largest living space – the perfect place to unwind and take in the views. With two dining cars you will experience one of Peru’s most unique dining experiences served in sophisticated style. The menu has been created by Peruvian Chef, Diego Muñoz. Enjoy freshly prepared breakfast, leisurely lunches and lavish dinners not forgetting the traditional Afternoon Tea. When not in your cabin or enjoying sumptuous meals unwind in the lounge car or observation car, the latter with an open deck is the perfect spot for taking in the fresh Andean air watching the world pass by.

The train passes through some of the most beautiful Peruvian scenery with four different routes available including: the Peruvian Highlands, Andean Plains and Islands of Discovery, Spirit of the Water and Spirit of the Andes. Travel through Cusco, the capital of the ancient Inca Empire, spectacular Lake Titicaca, Puno or Arequipa depending on the route chosen

### Why we like it

- A luxury and stylish sleeper train
- Discover one of the world’s highest train journeys
- Two dining cars create fresh, seasonal dishes
- Stay in private cabins, contemporary in style and en suite
- Ever changing landscapes will captivate your imagination

## Hotel Cirqa



Accommodation is offered in the parador across eleven rooms, arranged around two central patio areas. Cirqa is discreet about its modern amenities, with a design that maintains an atmosphere of tranquillity whilst offering everything you'd expect of a luxury hotel. Stylish contemporary furniture is set against a striking backdrop of stone walls and vaulted ceilings. Guest amenities include complimentary wifi, 24-hour concierge service and a smart TV with Netflix.

Inspired by rural Arequipenean picantería, Cirqa's salón restaurant serves up fresh local flavours using ingredients grown in the hotel's own rooftop vegetable garden. Enjoy a fine-dining experience that pays homage to the rich culinary history of the region.

You will also have the opportunity to enjoy exciting excursions arranged on-site, visiting iconic destinations and experiencing local culture.

### Why we like it

- The building is brimming with historical charm and retains many original features
- Ideally located in the centre of picturesque Arequipa city
- Designed by the renowned creative team responsible for Titilaka, Hotel B and Atemporal
- Enjoy panoramic views overlooking the cathedral and the Misti volcano

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