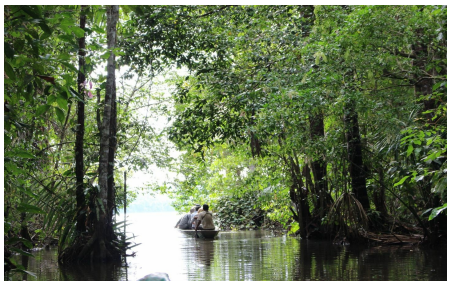
Full Itinerary

CLASSIC PERU

TALK TO OUR WELL TRAVELLED TEAM OF EXPERTS

0844 3350 197

Monday to Friday 09:00 - 18:00 GMT



JOURNEY SNAPSHOT

ACTIVITY LEVEL:

Level 2

DESTINATION:

Classic Peru

DURATION:

12 days / 11 nights

FLIGHT INFORMATION:

Please arrange flights to arrive into Lima Airport [LIM] on Day 1 and depart from Cusco Airport [CUZ] on Day 12

PICKUP LOCATION:

Lima Airport [LIM]

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OVERVIEW

Sep 06 - 17, 2027

Explore the Inca citadel Machu Picchu, Paracas and the Nazca lines and the amazing Amazon Jungle

The date listed above is for our scheduled group departure. If you'd prefer to travel privately with friends or family, we'd be delighted to arrange a bespoke tour on your preferred dates. Just contact us via email and we'll take care of the rest.

You have chosen one of the most rewarding places in the world to visit... Peru's rich tapestry of cultures and landscapes promises enriching and unforgettable travel experiences. The country has a unique and dramatic historical legacy, encompassing both the mighty Inca Empire and the enduring influence of its Spanish Colonial heritage. We will start in the capital city of Lima before heading north to Paracas to get a view of the mysterious Nazca lines. We'll get a chance to see a wide variety of wildlife when we visit Ballestas Island and the Paracas National Reserve - Humboldt penguins, sea lions, dolphins, flamingoes & many sea birds. Next we'll head to the Amazon for a rainforest experience of a lifetime! Our next flight takes us to Cuzco and then on to what is often a highlight of the trip for many - the Incan citadel of Machu Picchu.

Whatever your passions, Peru will delight you. You'll encounter friendly people, sample great cuisine, discover vibrant artistic traditions, journey through captivating landscapes, and explore some of the greatest architectural achievements of humanity. So no matter where your travels take you in Peru, whether it's mountain, city, valley or jungle... get ready for one of the most memorable trips you'll ever have!

ITINERARY SUMMARY

DAY 1 - Welcome to Lima

DAY 2 - Larco Museum &Paracas

DAY 3 - Paracas & optional Nazca Lines flight

DAY 4 - The Ballesta Islands

DAY 5 - Puerto Maldonado & Reserva Amazonica

DAY 6 - Reserva Amazonica

DAY 7 - Cusco and The Sacred Valley

DAY 8 - The Sacred Valley and Pisac

DAY 9 - Journey to Machu Picchu

DAY 10 - Exploring Machu Picchu Further and Return to Cusco

DAY 11 - Cusco Cultural City Tour

DAY 12 - Farewell to Peru

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FULL ITINERARY

DAY 1 - WELCOME TO LIMA

On arrival you will be greeted at the airport by our local representative and transferred to our hotel in Lima.

For those arriving in time (hotel departure at 14:30), there will be an opportunity to explore Lima, Peru's vibrant capital. This guided city tour showcases a stunning blend of colonial architecture, historic pre-Columbian sites, charming residential neighborhoods, and lively shopping districts overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

Highlights include a visit to the magnificent Cathedral and the San Francisco Convent, both built in the 17th century. A standout experience of the tour is the exploration of the catacombs, Lima's ancient underground cemetery, offering a fascinating glimpse into the city's past.

Your Big Journey Tour Director will be on hand to discuss the rest of the trip with you at a welcome dinner together this evening.

Included meals: Welcome Dinner
Accommodation: Casa Andina Select, Lima

DAY 2 - LARCO MUSEUM &PARACAS

We begin the day with a visit to the Larco Herrera Museum - always an entertaining an enlightening visit. Walking through the exhibition halls of the Larco Museum, the largest private collection of pre-Columbian art of the World, with our Curator makes the visit an inspiring experience. There is a wealth of information about the collection and the peoples that made the beautiful archaeological objects.

We enjoy lunch together before continuing along the city's lovely Pacific coastline through the enchanting neighbourhoods of San Isidro and Miraflores, departing Lima to head south to Paracas (approx. 4hrs drive).

We enjoy dinner together this evening.

Included meals: Breakfast Lunch & Dinner
Accommodation: La Hacienda Bahía Paracas

DAY 3 - PARACAS & OPTIONAL NAZCA LINES FLIGHT

There is an opportunity today to purchase the optional excursion of a flight from Pisco Aerodrome, to pass over the giant, puzzling Nazca Lines.

The rest of the day will be spent at leisure, giving you the opportunity to enjoy the ocean views and the tranquillity of this coastal setting. However you choose to spend your day, we will meet together this evening over dinner.

Included meals: Breakfast & Dinner
Accommodation: La Hacienda Bahía Paracas
Optional extras: Nazca Lines Flight. Transfer to Pisco Aerodrome. From here, you will begin your overflight of the enigmatic Nazca Lines. Behold the incredible creative abilities of the ancient Peruvians as you discover one of humanity's greatest mysteries: geoglyphs and lines of colossal magnitude etched in the desert sands by the Nazca people. A monkey, a spider, a hummingbird, and more than 20 other figures occupying an area of approximately 190 sq. miles (500 km^2), wait to be admired from above in an unforgettable experience (the flight is in a small plane and is an optional extra with additional cost).

DAY 4 - THE BALLESTA ISLANDS

Together today, we board a boat to the beautiful Ballestas Islands. The uninhabited Ballestas Islands are home to thousands of birds and mammals including penguins, sea lions, Inca terns, pelicans and dolphins. The spectacular Paracas National Reserve is a must for all wildlife lovers and we shall enjoy a guided tour to see and hear more about this very special place.

At the end of the day we return to Lima to prepare for tomorrow's flights to the Amazon rainforest.

Included meals: Breakfast
Accommodation: Wyndham Grand Costa del Sol Lima Airport.

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DAY 5 - PUERTO MALDONADO & RESERVA AMAZONICA

This morning we travel back to Lima Airport for our flight to Puerto Maldonado.

***Each passenger is permitted to bring one piece of hand luggage on this flight, with a maximum weight limit of 10kg. You can leave your larger luggage at Inkaterra's office, where it will be securely stored. Upon your return to Puerto Maldonado, you'll easily retrieve it before continuing to the airport for your next destination.**

We begin our rainforest experience as soon as we arrive with a 45 minute boat ride along the Madre de Dios River to arrive at Inkaterra Reserva Amazonica lodge.

On arrival we will meet our local guide and then you are free to choose from the different included excursions available at the Inkaterra lodge during our stay.
Today we recommend a guided walk along the Trail system, into the Inkaterra Reserva Amazonica natural area, where you will discover the Amazon Basin. This trail offers an excellent introduction to the forest environment, winding past impressive trees such as the Shihuahuaco, and the strangely beautiful strangler fig, offering excellent opportunities for bird watching and observing exotic insects.
This evening the Twilight River excursion is not to be missed. Witness the transformation from a diurnal to a nocturnal world: animals and birds of the daytime give way to species specially adapted to the night. As you enjoy searching for nightjars, owls, capybaras and big caimans in their paradise, you will learn about their habits and habitat.
We will gather again for dinner this evening, served in the main dining room from 7.30pm. to 9.30pm. After dinner, you may retire early to your own cabaña, or join us to talk about the experience of life in the rainforest, as you listen to the intriguing sounds of the jungle at night.

Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Accommodation: Reserva Amazonica

DAY 6 - RESERVA AMAZONICA

Rest in bed or rise early — the choice is yours. Breakfast is served from 5.30am, for those who want to avoid the heat and enjoy nature to its fullest. A full buffet breakfast is served from 7:00am to 9.30am.

This morning we enjoy the Lake Sandoval excursion into the Tambopata National Reserve. Glide in a wooden canoe across a mirror-like lake, home to the endangered giant river otter, red howler monkeys, red-bellied macaws, anacondas, side-neck turtles and black caimans. Return to the Inkaterra lodge for lunch.

After lunch, consider the remarkable Inkaterra Canopy Walkway and Anaconda Walk. Ascending the first tower, 29 meters above the forest ground, you begin your encounter with the treetop realm. For more than a quarter of a mile, walk through the rainforest canopy on a suspension bridge network linking eight observation platforms. During this hour-and-a-half expedition, be on the lookout for bright toucans, woodpeckers, trogons, monkeys and the three-toed sloth.If you wish you may extend your excursion and appreciate the sunset from one of the towers.

After your descent from the Canopy, experience the Anaconda Walk for about 30 minutes along the 200-meter wooden bridge over the Aguajales swamps. In this lush eco system, you may observe the various species of amphibians, birds, mammals, abundant flora, trees and there is a possibility to see serpents of this flooded marshland. The walk finishes by returning to the lodge. Once at the lodge, enjoy the daily nature presentation in the Eco Centre.

Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Accommodation: Reserva Amazonica

DAY 7 - CUSCO AND THE SACRED VALLEY

After a restful morning, today we bid a fond farewell to the rainforest and are transferred to Puerto Maldonado Airport for our flight to Cusco. Upon arrival, we will be greeted and transferred to the Sacred Valley. The rest of the day is at leisure before dinner is served at the hotel.

Included meals: Breakfast & Dinner
Accommodation: Aranwa Valle, Urubamba

DAY 8 - THE SACRED VALLEY AND PISAC

Today we visit Pisac, a picturesque town located 19.8 miles or 32km northeast of Cusco. Colourful fairs take place in Cusco every day. Here

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merchants offer for sale all sorts of handicrafts, the most interesting of which are the textiles and ceramic goods such as ceremonial goblets called “Q’eros”, plates, ashtrays, necklace and replicas of pre-Hispanic pottery. Lunch will be served at a local restaurant.
Dinner will be enjoyed together at the hotel this evening.

Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Accommodation: Aranwa Valle, Urubamba

DAY 9 - JOURNEY TO MACHU PICCHU

Today we enjoy a full-day visit to the awe-inspiring Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu.

We will be collected from the hotel at the scheduled time and transferred to Ollantaytambo train station to board the Vistadome-Observatory train. This scenic journey to Aguas Calientes is filled with breathtaking views of the Andes and the Urubamba River. Upon arrival, we take a short bus ride up the winding mountain road to the entrance of Machu Picchu, one of the New Seven Wonders of the World.

Rediscovered for modern times by Hiram Bingham more than a century ago, Machu Picchu continues to captivate visitors with its architectural brilliance, majestic setting, and mystical energy. Accompanied by our knowledgeable guide, we explore the citadel and learn about its fascinating history and significance to the Inca civilization.

Afterwards, we enjoy a delicious lunch at the Hotel’s restaurant, before returning to Aguas Calientes. The remainder of the afternoon is free to relax and reflect on the day’s incredible experiences before dinner and overnight at our hotel.

Important Information
For your Machu Picchu excursion, we recommend packing light and taking only what is necessary for the overnight stay in Aguas Calientes. The remaining luggage will be securely transferred by our staff to your hotel in Cusco, ready for your return and check-in.

*Train Baggage Allowance
Each passenger may bring one small bag or backpack (maximum 8 kg / 17.6 lbs, and total dimensions not exceeding 115 cm / 45 inches in length + height + width).

Please note that larger or heavier baggage cannot be taken on the train.

Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Accommodation: Sumaq Machu Picchu Hotel

DAY 10 - EXPLORING MACHU PICCHU FURTHER AND RETURN TO CUSCO

Today we enjoy a second entrance to the magnificent citadel of Machu Picchu.

After breakfast, we take a short walk to the bus station for the scenic ride back up the mountain to the sacred site. Accompanied by our knowledgeable guide, we continue exploring this extraordinary Inca sanctuary — discovering new angles, hidden corners, and breathtaking viewpoints that reveal even more of Machu Picchu’s mystery and grandeur.

Following our visit, we descend to the town of Aguas Calientes to enjoy a delicious lunch at Café Inkaterra, surrounded by lush cloud forest scenery.

In the afternoon, we board the Vistadome-Observatory train for our return journey through the spectacular Andean landscapes to Poroy railway station. Upon arrival, a private transfer takes us to our hotel in Cusco for an evening at leisure.

Included meals: Breakfast & Lunch
Accommodation: Palacio del Inka, Cusco

DAY 11 - CUSCO CULTURAL CITY TOUR

Today's tour visits the Fortress of Sacsayhuaman, a colossal structure built with huge carved rocks jointed with absolute accuracy. This is an astounding sample of Incan military architecture. We also enjoy the best view of the city of Cusco from atop Cerro Pukamoqo (Red Peak), a

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natural scenic overlook from which the outstretched arms of Cristo Blanco, a massive white statue of Christ, embrace the city in a benevolent gesture. Today we will also visit San Pedro Market, the Qoricancha (the Golden Temple) and Cusco Cathedral.

This evening we will have a farewell dinner together.

Included meals: Breakfast & Dinner
Accommodation: Palacio del Inka, Cusco

DAY 12 - FAREWELL TO PERU

Enjoy a full breakfast before transferring to Cusco Airport to meet the departure flights.

Included meals: Breakfast
Accommodation: None

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WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Meet & Greet at Lima Airport on arrival
- Transfers included (subject to arriving/departing at the designated airport and staying at the tour hotel on the official tour dates)
- Two domestic flights: Lima [LIM] - Puerto Maldonado [PEM]; Puerto Maldonado [PEM] - Cusco [CUZ]
- Accommodation as detailed in the itinerary (or similar standard)
- Meals as detailed in the itinerary
- Transport in an air-conditioned luxury vehicle
- Return Cusco-Aguas Calientes Vistadome train
- English speaking tour guide throughout
- All activities, visits and excursions as detailed in the itinerary.

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- Please arrange your flights to arrive into Lima Airport [LIM] on Day 1 and depart from Cusco Airport [CUZ] on Day 12
- Drinks
- All entrance fees to non-stipulated attractions.
- Visas, travel insurance.
- Any personal items and anything not mentioned under included in price above.
- Any meals not mentioned in itinerary.
- Any optional activities offered.
- Gratuities
- Any COVID tests or related entry & exit requirements

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- **Flights:** International flights to/from your chosen destination are not included in this package. The Big Journey Company will be happy to provide a quotation for your flights—please contact us for further details.
- **Vaccinations & Health:** Vaccinations may be recommended depending on your destination. Please consult your doctor or travel clinic for the most up-to-date medical advice.
- **Visas & Entry Requirements:** Entry requirements vary by destination, and a visa may be required. Please refer to the travel tips section for full details. It is your responsibility to ensure you have the necessary travel documentation prior to departure.
- **Medical Needs:** Please inform The Big Journey Company prior to travel of any medical conditions or medications you take that we should be aware of to help ensure a safe and enjoyable experience.
- **Accommodation Check-in/Out:** Unless otherwise stated in your itinerary, check-in is after 2–3pm and check-out is before 10am. Please note that hotels may be subject to change to the same or similar standard due to availability.
- **Cancellation Policy:** Cancellations made within 90 days of departure are subject to a 100% cancellation fee. Deposits are non-refundable, and balance payments are due 14 weeks prior to departure. It is your responsibility to ensure adequate travel insurance is in place to protect against the need to cancel your holiday.
- **Minimum Numbers:** The Big Journey Company host will accompany the tour should minimum guest numbers be met. We will confirm this closer to the departure date.
- **Terms & Conditions:** Further terms and conditions apply and will be provided upon request or at the time of booking. The Big Journey Company reserves the right to withdraw any offer prior to accepting a reservation. This does not affect your statutory rights. All offers are subject to availability and space is limited.

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BOOK YOUR JOURNEY

Choose from the list of dates below

BOOK NOW!	06 SEP - 17 SEP 2027	**FROM $8,659 PER PERSON.**

Call to Book

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Monday to Friday 09:00 - 18:00 GMT

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