

PERU - CLASSIC PERU



TRIP CODE

PETSCLP

DURATION

12 Days

LOCATIONS

Peru, Machu Picchu



INTRODUCTION

Choose this Tailor-Made itinerary or customise to create your own unique journey.
Departs daily to suit your travel plans. Price based on Standard accommodation.
Superior or Deluxe also available.

The perfect itinerary for those wanting to travel to Peru for a two week trip, Classic Peru includes the highlights of this beautiful country, and more. From historical Lima, fly to charming and picturesque Arequipa. Acclimatise taking in the Colca Canyon to Lake Titicaca. Cross the famous scenery of the Altiplano to the capital of the ancient Incan Empire - Cusco, to visit the iconic Machu Picchu.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Arrival transfer in Lima

On arrival, please make your way through to the Arrivals Hall where our representative will be waiting for you to transfer you to your hotel. This service includes a driver and local English speaking guide, who will provide you with any useful information needed for your stay. He/she will be holding a sign with your name on it. Should you not be able to locate them, please refer to the front of your itinerary for emergency contact details of our representative office.



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DAY 1: Lima

Lima, the capital of Peru, sits on the country's arid Pacific coast. Founded in 1535, its colonial centre is well preserved, but today Lima is a bustling metropolis and one of South America's largest cities. The city is home to the various museums including the Museo Larco that houses a collection of pre-Columbian art and the Museo de la Nación, tracing the history of Peru's ancient civilizations. Lima is known as the "gastronomical capital of the Americas", encompassing specialties from ceviche and traditional coastal cooking to refined global fare. It even boasts several of the top restaurants in the world. If you have any free days during your stay, we recommend that you take a visit to the Larcomar shopping centre. Located on a cliff with spectacular views of the Pacific Ocean in the heart of Lima's Miraflores district, it is worth the visit. You can either walk from Barranco or have your hotel arrange a taxi for you. Additionally, Huaccu Pucllana is a massive adobe and clay pyramid built between 200 and 700 AD. It served as an important ceremonial and administrative centre for the advancement of Lima culture, constructed from seven staggered platforms. Take a taxi to this amazing site in Miraflores (closed on Tuesday's). You can take a tour upon arrival, or simply admire the structure while sipping a coffee or a pisco sour in the lovely Peruvian restaurant overlooking the site (open for lunch until 3pm). Or if you are interested in history and archaeology, a visit to the one-of-a-kind private Museo Larco could be an unforgettable experience. Discover over 5000 years of ancient Peruvian civilisations and the intimate bond that existed between pre-Columbian societies and the natural world. Open daily, however it is a good idea to check if a guided tour in English is available prior to visiting.



DAY 2: Lima - City Tour

Today you will be collected from your hotel for your tour of Lima, the Colonial 'City of Kings'. On the city tour you will visit a number of well-known sites including the Cathedral, the Presidential Palace, Santo Domingo Convent and the Plaza de Armas. This is a chance to appreciate Lima's magnificent Colonial architecture as well as vignettes of its pre-Colombian past. On completion of this tour, you will be taken to your hotel. Please note this is a small group tour.

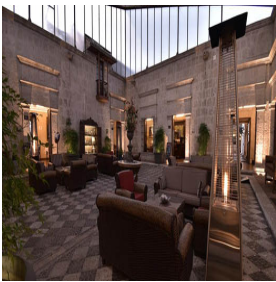


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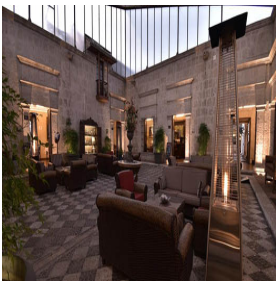
DAY 3: Transfer to the airport for onward destination

You will be collected from your hotel at the appropriate time and transferred to the airport for your onward flight.



DAY 3: Arrival transfer in Arequipa

On arrival, please make your way through to the Arrivals Hall where our representative will be waiting for you to transfer you to your hotel. He/she will be holding a sign with your name on it. Should you not be able to locate them, please refer to the front of your itinerary for emergency contact details of our representative office. Please note this service is with a driver only.



DAY 3: Arequipa

Arequipa lies on the edge of the Altiplano, 2380m above sea level and framed by the volcanoes Misti, Pikchu Pikchu and Chachani. It is known as “La Ciudad Blanca” (White City), as many of its buildings are made of sillar, a white volcanic stone. The historic centre of Arequipa is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and its historic heritage, natural scenery and cultural sites, make the city a popular destination.



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DAY 3: Private Arequipa City Tour and Monasterio

Today we explore the beautiful city of Arequipa, known locally as ‘The White City’ due to its glistening white buildings built from volcanic rock. During this tour, we will visit a number of sites throughout the city including the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Santa Catalina Monastery, the Main Square, the Complex of San Francisco and the Arequipa Cathedral, one of the biggest in South America. The tour starts with a visit to the Carmen Alto viewpoint, located on the right side of the Chili River which once divided Arequipa into two parts. On both sides of the river it is possible to see the agricultural terraces from the Pre-Inca period which are still in good condition, as well as a beautiful landscape dominated by the majesty of the Misti, Chachani and Pichupichu volcanoes. We will continue on to the Spanish Colonial district of Yanahuara, a traditional neighbourhood characterised by beautiful narrow, cobblestone streets of Andalusian influence. The main square, located in the highest part of the district, houses the famous Saint John the Baptist Church (1750) distinguished by a baroque style façade. On the right stands the viewpoint, built in the XIX century, comprising bas-relief arches engraved with phrases and thoughts of renowned Arequipeños. From this viewpoint we will also have an uninterrupted view of downtown Arequipa and the Misti volcano. From here we will return downtown and walk to the Plaza De Armas (Main Square), one of the most beautiful and stunning squares in Peru. After, we will continue to the Compañía De Jesus religious complex, complete with church and cloister. The church’s façade is one of the most archetypical representations of the baroque style in Southern Peru and inside we will spend time admiring the colonial paintings and golden altars of this impressive church. Next, we will visit the Saint Ignatius Chapel which is well-known for its sacristy and very famous polychrome cupola. And finally, we will view the cloister, built in 1738, the cloister is characterized by archways of heavy pillars fully decorated on four sides and it’s three patios. Lastly, we will head to the Andean Sanctuaries Museum, home to the Juanita mummy. Discovered atop Ampato Mountain in 1995, in the Andes of Southern Peru, Juanita is in fact not a mummy but a frozen 12-year-old Inca girl who was sacrificed to the gods in the 1450’s. We will finish the tour with a visit to the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Saint Catalina Monastery – a small citadel comprising of narrow streets, squares and gardens, a rustic laundry, and cells; as well as stunning and airtight cloisters in the middle of huge walls made from ashlar. Note: The Andean Sanctuary Museum where the Juanita mummy exhibit is located, is open for visits from Tuesday to Saturday from 09:00 to 18:00. On Sundays it is open from 09:00 to 14:00 and it is closed on Mondays. Santa Catalina Monastery is open for visits from Monday to Sunday, from 09:00 to 18:00 (last visitors enter at 17:00).



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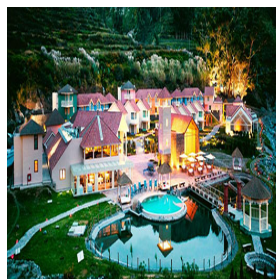
DAY 4: Arequipa to Colca Canyon

Early this morning you will be picked up from your hotel to commence your road journey to the Colca Canyon. Enroute there will be several stops to appreciate flora, fauna and high Andean Landscapes, one of them is Pampa Canahuas, located at 3,800 metres above sea level, inside the National Reserve Salinas y Aguada Blanca, a place where we can see vicunas in their natural habitat and the Misti and Chachani Volcanoes. During the next part of the journey, you will visit the community of Patahuasi (4,000 metres above sea level), the Toccra Zone (4,300 metres above sea level) homes to llamas, alpacas, migratory birds and offering incredible views of the landscape and Patapampa (4,900 metres above seal) offering majestic views of the cordillera and volcanoes in the Arequipa region. Begin to descend to Chivay Town located in the Colca Valley. Free time for lunch (not included) before transferring to your hotel for your overnight stay. There is an optional visit to the 40°C thermal-medicinal baths in La Calera. (Entrance fee to the pools is not included and is US\$ 7.00 per person approximately - subject to change.) Note: The optional visit to La Calera Hot Springs is for clients staying in Chivay town only. For those guests staying at Colca Lodge, the hotel has its own hot spring pools (four) which are located on the banks of the river for you to enjoy.



DAY 5: Bus Transfer Colca Canyon - Puno

Following breakfast, we travel to the 'Cruz del Condor', a spot considered to be the best viewpoint to watch the majestic Andean condors ascending from the valley. The Colca Canyon is a canyon of the Colca River and one of the deepest canyons in the world. It is home to the Andean condors that can be seen at close range as they fly past the canyon walls, rising on the thermals. At the 'Cruz del Condor' viewpoint, the canyon floor is 3,960 feet (1,200 m) below the rim of the canyon. After this amazing spectacle, we continue our journey back to the town of Chivay, taking in the beautiful Andean scenery and fascinating pre-Inca, Inca and Colonial history of the area. The road passes through several small villages founded in Spanish colonial times and still inhabited by people of the Collagua and the Cabana cultures. The local people maintain their traditional way of life and continue to cultivate the pre-Inca stepped terraces. Many of the women wear traditional dress with colourful embroidered blouses and flower-patterned hats. In the afternoon, travel by bus to Puno, situated on the shores of the famous Lake Titicaca. You will board a touristic bus that includes a hostess who speaks limited english, snacks and beverages. The duration of this bus journey is approximately six hours.



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DAY 5: Arrival transfer in Puno

On arrival at Puno bus or train station, you will be met by a representative who will be holding a sign with your name on it, to transfer you to your hotel. Should you have trouble locating him/her, please refer to the front of your itinerary for emergency contact details.



DAY 5: Puno

Puno lies on the shores of Lake Titicaca, the highest navigable lake in the world. It is the largest city in the Southern Altiplano and an important agricultural and livestock (llamas and alpaca) region. It sits at an altitude of over 3,800 metres and is a picturesque hillside city and a melting pot of the Aymara and Quechua culture.



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DAY 6: Titicaca Uncover by Speed Boat

Early this morning you will be collected from your hotel and transferred to the port to board a fully equipped speedboat with on board service to visit various islands on Lake Titicaca. First stop is Taquile Island where you will explore a scenic and less touristy area. Enjoy time on a pristine sandy beach to relax and feel the serenity of Lake Titicaca. We then hike along a pre-Inca trail with spectacular landscapes of the island, visiting families of weavers to learn about their textile art and symbolism. In 2005, "Taquile and its Textile Art" were proclaimed "Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity" by UNESCO. After three hours on Taquile, board the speedboat for a short journey to the community of Santa Maria-Llachon, on the tip of the Capachica Peninsula. This is a picturesque off the beaten track destination. We are welcomed by the small Quechua speaking community and introduced to an intensive cultural experience, observing the traditions of the community and participating in an ancient ceremony to learn about their magical world. Experience the preparation of "Pachamanca", a traditional way of cooking meat, fish and potatoes using underground ovens, and one of the main dishes of Peruvian cuisine. Enjoy these delicacies in a small, but scenic restaurant (included in tour price). For the more adventurous there is an optional kayak along the coast of Llachon. After lunch we leave Santa Maria and arrive at a remote area of the National Reserve of Lake Titicaca to explore Uros Ccapi. These are considered to be the last authentic floating islands, less commercial and little visited. The Uros are descendants of one of the oldest cultures in South America. There are optional tours in reed boats before we depart back to Puno. On arrival at the port, you will be transferred to your hotel. Please note this is small group tour. Please note there is a minimum number of passengers requested to operate this tour from December to March, if the required number of passengers is not reached we will offer you a similar alternative. Please also note that between the months of January and March the ceremony of "Pachamama" will be subject to weather conditions.



DAY 7: Transfer from Puno hotel to bus or train station

This morning, you will be collected from your hotel and transferred to either the bus or train station for your journey from Puno to Cusco.



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DAY 7: Puno to Cusco

The spectacular journey from Puno to Cusco takes you across the Altiplano and you will travel accompanied by an English-speaking guide. The drive takes you through sleepy Andean villages and past spectacular snowcapped mountains, sheer cliffs and rampaging rivers. Stops along the way include the atmospheric towns of Pucara and Andahuaylillas and the pre-Inca ruin of Raqchi. Lunch is included and you will arrive in the famous city of Cusco in the early evening. The journey will take approximately 10 hours.



DAY 7: Arrival transfer in Cusco

On arrival at Cusco bus or train station, you will be met by a representative who will be holding a sign with your name on it, to transfer you to your hotel.



DAY 7: Cusco

Cusco, set at an altitude of 3,400 metres in the Peruvian Andes, was once the capital of the Inca Empire. It is known for its Spanish colonial architecture and Incan remains. Narrow, cobble-stoned streets lined by Inca walls stretch out from the main plaza in every direction. Many of the colonial buildings were built on top of Incan foundations and the stonework is unparalleled in its precision and beauty.



DAY 8: Cusco - City Tour

You will be collected from your hotel for a sightseeing tour through Cusco, the heart of the Inca Empire. Visit the fascinating Qorikancha Temple of the Sun, the 12-Angled Rock and the Cathedral, built on the ruins of an Inca Palace. From here head to the archaeological remains located around the city, including the fortress of Sacsayhuaman, Qenko (giant rock), the ancient site of Puca Pucara and finally the Water Temple of Tambomachay. On completion of your tour, you will be taken to your hotel. Included in your tour price is the BTG (Tourist Ticket of Cusco). Please note this is a small group tour.



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DAY 9: Cusco - Free Day

Today is at leisure allowing you to spend time wandering the cobble-stoned streets of the ancient Inca capital. With treasures around every corner, Cusco is a wonderful city to explore on foot. Vibrant markets and stores give the traveller a plethora of shopping opportunities set amongst fine Inca and Spanish colonial architecture. The UNESCO World Heritage city is lined with history and ancient monuments, a truly enthralling city to spend time in.



DAY 10: Ollantaytambo to Aguas Calientes

Travel from Ollantaytambo to Machu Picchu in this comfortable train, and let your feet have rest. Enjoy an authentic Andean experience, while relaxing in modern and comfortable interior design illuminated by Latin American music. Comfortable seats with tables in front to share the journey with friends. *Due to limited space for luggage storage on trains, luggage restrictions apply: one bag or backpack (carry-on luggage) with a maximum weight of 5.0 kg/11 lb, measuring no more than 62 linear inches/157 linear cm (height + length + width)



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DAY 11: Machu Picchu Guided Tour

Machu Picchu is a 15th century Inca site, located 2,430 metres above sea level on a mountain ridge above the Sacred Valley. It is the most famous of all Inca sites, but it was not until 1911 that it was brought to the world’s attention by the American historian Hiram Bingham. The Incas abandoned the city just prior to Spanish colonisation, the city was never pillaged and as a result the ruins are still in fantastic condition. With its location on a dramatic ridgeline surrounded by sheer cliffs and the Urubamba River on three sides, the city of Machu Picchu is a remarkable place to visit. Machu Picchu was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1983 and in 2007 it was voted one of the new Seven Wonders of the World. The tour starts with a bus ride from Aguas Calientes to Machu Picchu. You will be astonished at your first view of Machu Picchu, a stunning display of ancient architecture with incredible surroundings. Enjoy a guided shared tour of the ruins. The shared tours will generally take circuit 1 which is the high/short route. You will explore the upper platforms of the site, where you can enjoy a panoramic view over the ruins. You will visit the Guardian’s hut and then continue to the Puente del Inca (Incan Gate) and the urban sector of the citadel. Take the path on to the quarry and head on to the Casa Del Inca, Hall of Mirrors and Temple of the Condor. Return by bus to Aguas Calientes village. Please note that shared tours run with a maximum of 8 guests and 1 local expert guide. Please be aware that your tour of Machu Picchu does not include an entry permit to Huayna Picchu (the iconic hill behind the Machu Picchu ruins). If you want to climb Huayna Picchu then you need to pre-book your permit with at least 3 months in advance. Please contact your travel specialist if you would like to do this.



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DAY 11: Aguas Calientes to Ollantaytambo

Travel from Machu Picchu to Ollantaytambo in this comfortable train, and let your feet have a rest. Enjoy an authentic Andean experience, while relaxing in modern and comfortable interior design illuminated by Latin American music. Comfortable seats with tables in front to share the journey with friends. *Due to limited space for luggage storage on trains, luggage restrictions apply: one bag or backpack (carry-on luggage) with a maximum weight of 5.0 kg/11 lb, measuring no more than 62 linear inches/157 linear cm (height + length + width)



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DAY 11: Private Transfer Ollantaytambo - Cusco

Transfer from Ollantaytambo train station in the Sacred Valley to Cusco.



DAY 12: Transfer to the airport for onward destination

You will be collected from your hotel at the appropriate time and transferred to the airport for your onward flight.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS	
Accommodation	Hotels.
Inclusions	Private airport transfers Internal flights as part of this itinerary Accommodation with breakfast daily Sightseeing with local English speaking guides as detailed in itinerary Other meals where stated EXCLUSIONS: International flights Visa and reciprocity fees (if applicable) Travel insurance Beverages Personal expenses Gratuities for tour guides and drivers Any items not mentioned as included
Difficulty Rating	3 Light Adventure (High altitude in some areas)
Single Surcharge	Available upon request. Contact us for more details.
Notes	All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice. This is a Tailor-Made itinerary which can be customised to create your own unique journey. Contact us to discuss your travel plans.

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Price Dependent upon Season and availability.

SUSTAINABILITY

Being environmentally accountable is a crucial part of our organisation. Chimu is currently striving towards using less paper, taking several initiatives to do so and tracking our progress along the way. Our goal: A paperless organisation. For this reason, all information given to you will be sent electronically. We encourage those who choose to travel with us to support our aspirations and actions and ask that you reconsider printing out documentation. To view these documents, you can download them to your iPad or portable computer before and during your trip.

Chimu is passionate and dedicated to sustainability measures and understands the crucial part sustainability plays within the tourism industry.

We use local guides and office staff to both maximise local employment opportunities and minimise carbon footprint. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you're visiting. Our guides are all highly qualified (most with university degrees) or equip with many years of experience and are paid above the standard wage. Whether it be our knowledgeable local guides, locally produced meals or the transport on tour, we do not use imported goods when local products are available. We aim to minimise our impact on the environment and give as much back as possible to the communities we work in.

While visiting the many national parks, heritage sites, museums and landmarks our travellers are encouraged to explore remain culturally aware and sensitive. We further encourage you to buy appropriate souvenirs and discourage the buying of anything wrongfully made or taken from the environment i.e. shells and endangered species products. Information on how you can be environmentally conscious, and travel responsibly will be made available in our Travellers Guides and provided during your travels by guides and staff.

For more information on our sustainability policies, including how we are striving towards being a paperless organisation, click [HERE](#)

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