



PERU

ANCIENT PATHS, VIBRANT CULTURE



Peru is a breathtaking blend of majestic landscapes, ancient civilizations, and vibrant traditions. Home to the iconic Inca citadel of Machu Picchu, the country invites travelers to journey through cloud forests, snow-capped Andes, and the vast Amazon rainforest.

There's no shortage of things to do—hike the Inca Trail, explore the Sacred Valley, cruise Lake Titicaca, or discover colonial charm in Cusco and Lima. Adventure seekers can sandboard in Huacachina or trek to Rainbow Mountain, while culture lovers enjoy colorful markets, textiles, and rituals steeped in heritage.

Peru's culture is a rich tapestry of indigenous, Spanish, and African influences. Music, dance, and festivals are central to life. Peruvian cuisine is globally acclaimed—ceviche, lomo saltado, and alpaca steak are just a few local delights. From mystical ruins to modern gastronomy, Peru is a land that stirs the soul and ignites the imagination.

Beyond its famous highlights, Peru offers hidden gems that reward curious travelers. Discover the enigmatic Nazca Lines etched into the desert floor, explore the lush Tambopata Reserve teeming with Amazonian wildlife, or wander the white volcanic stone streets of Arequipa, the "White City."


CAPITAL
Lima


AREA
496225 SQ MI


CURRENCY
Sol


LANGUAGE
Spanish

ICONIC PERU LANDMARKS



MACHU PICCHU

High in the mist-shrouded Andes lies Machu Picchu, the legendary “Lost City of the Incas.” This UNESCO World Heritage Site and New Seven Wonders of the World captivates with its intricate stone architecture, terraced slopes, and breathtaking mountain vistas. Walking its ancient pathways, visitors are immersed in both the spiritual aura and the enduring mystery that have made it an icon of human ingenuity and cultural heritage.

SACRED VALLEY

Stretching between Cusco and Machu Picchu, the Sacred Valley of the Incas is a fertile ribbon of land dotted with terraced hillsides, vibrant markets, and traditional villages where ancient customs still thrive. Here, travelers can explore Incan ruins, wander artisan stalls bursting with color, and savor local cuisine. Surrounded by soaring peaks and the gentle flow of the Urubamba River, it offers the perfect blend of cultural immersion and soft adventure.



LAKE TITICACA

Straddling the border between Peru and Bolivia, Lake Titicaca is the world’s highest navigable body of water, shimmering at over 12,500 feet above sea level. Visitors can journey to the floating Uros Islands, ingeniously crafted from totora reeds, where communities preserve traditions passed down for centuries. The lake’s vast expanse, spiritual significance, and stunning sunsets create an atmosphere that feels both otherworldly and deeply rooted in history.

COLCA CANYON

Twice as deep as the Grand Canyon, Peru’s Colca Canyon is a land of dramatic beauty and ancient heritage. Its sheer walls and terraced slopes, built by pre-Incan civilizations, tell stories of resilience and agricultural mastery. From scenic viewpoints, witness the majestic flight of Andean condors soaring effortlessly on thermal winds. Whether trekking through its rugged trails or photographing its sweeping vistas, Colca is a haven for nature lovers and adventurers alike.



NAZCA LINES

In the arid plains of southern Peru lie the Nazca Lines—mysterious geoglyphs that stretch across the desert floor, depicting animals, plants, and enigmatic symbols. Visible only from above, these immense figures, some over 1,000 feet long, continue to puzzle archaeologists and inspire awe. Believed to be over a thousand years old, they remain one of humanity’s greatest ancient mysteries, blending artistry, astronomy, and cultural ritual in a single breathtaking canvas.

MORE TO KNOW ABOUT PERU



HANDCRAFTED SOUVENIRS

Peru's artisans keep ancient traditions alive, creating exquisite works by hand. In bustling markets like Cusco and Pisac, you'll find alpaca wool sweaters and scarves, brilliantly dyed and luxuriously soft, alongside handwoven textiles rich with symbolic patterns. Pottery reflects ancient Inca designs, silver jewelry gleams with intricate craftsmanship, and vibrant embroidery captures the colors of the Andes, each piece a tangible link to Peru's heritage.

TRADITIONAL MUSIC & DANCE

Andean music is a soul-stirring blend of history and tradition, with haunting melodies from pan flutes, the bright strum of charangos, and rhythmic percussion echoing through mountain valleys. During vibrant festivals, dancers in colorful costumes perform the Marinera and Huayno, telling stories of love, resilience, and indigenous pride. These performances connect past and present, preserving cultural identity in every note and step.



PERUVIAN CUISINE

Peruvian cuisine is a flavorful journey through diverse landscapes and cultures. Savor spicy ají sauces, tangy and bright, alongside the world-famous ceviche, marinated to perfection in zesty lime. Try hearty dishes like causa layered with potatoes and avocado, smoky anticuchos sizzling on the grill, or wholesome quinoa-based meals born in the highlands. Each bite reveals the country's fusion of indigenous ingredients and global influences, making Peru a true culinary paradise.

FESTIVALS & RITUALS

Peru's calendar bursts with spectacular celebrations where ancient traditions meet vibrant modern life. Inti Raymi, the grand Festival of the Sun in Cusco, honors Inca heritage with colorful processions, music, and sacred ceremonies. In Puno Week, parades fill the streets with dancers, elaborate costumes, and folkloric music. Many festivals blend Catholic and indigenous beliefs, creating powerful expressions of cultural unity and spiritual devotion that bring communities together in joyous celebration.



ALTITUDE AWARENESS

High-altitude destinations like Cusco, the Sacred Valley, and Machu Picchu offer breathtaking views, both figuratively and literally. At elevations above 11,000 feet, acclimatization is key to comfort and safety. Drink soothing coca tea, pace yourself when exploring, and stay well hydrated. Allow your body time to adjust before tackling strenuous activities, so you can fully immerse yourself in Peru's wonders without being hindered by the challenges of thinner mountain air.

OUR TRAVEL IDEAS

Discover the world with Central Holidays, where travel becomes art

Choose from meticulously curated escorted tours with set departures or indulge in bespoke travel experiences crafted around your individual interests. Whether your passion lies in ancient history, serene beaches, gourmet cuisine, or vibrant cultures, our journeys are designed to inspire and delight. From celebrated landmarks to secret corners of the globe, explore with elegance, depth, and purpose.



7
DAYS

WONDERS OF PERU

LIMA | SACRED VALLEY | MACHU PICCHU | CUZCO

This trip will take you to experience and explore some of the near endless treasures of this fascinating country. Come discover the enchanting city of Lima, brimming with Spanish architecture and pre-Spanish treasures on this Peru vacation package. Tantalize your taste-buds at one of Lima's many "cevicherías" or popular street food stands. Delve into the Chinchero community and the typical Inca community of Ollantaytambo with its steep stone terraces. Enjoy a mind-blowing journey through Lost City of the Incas – Machu Picchu – as you explore Peru's most important archaeological site and one of the new Seven Wonders of the World.

PERUVIAN CLASSIC HIGHLIGHTS

LIMA | SACRED VALLEY | AGUAS CALIENTES | CUZCO

Discover Peru's treasures on this 7-day "Peruvian Classic Highlights" vacation. Explore Lima and Cusco, then experience the awe of Machu Picchu—Peru's most iconic site and one of the New Seven Wonders of the World. Visit the Sacred Valley with its vast Inca terraces at Pisac, and explore the Temple of the Sun, Sacsayhuaman fortress, Qenqo's labyrinth, and Puca Pucara's waterways. In Lima, uncover colonial architecture, pre-Spanish treasures, and savor local flavors at a cevichería or street stand.

7
DAYS



8
DAYS



PERU IN THE LAP OF LUXURY

LIMA | SACRED VALLEY | MACHU PICCHU | CUZCO

Exclusive experiences and unparalleled exploration await on this Lap of Luxury – by Private Car journey through Peru. Explore Lima and Cusco, enjoy fine dining in the Sacred Valley, and travel aboard the Belmond Hiram Bingham luxury train to Machu Picchu. In Lima, discover colonial mansions, the Larco Museum, and vibrant flavors at a traditional cevichería. Learn Andean weaving, visit Pisac's vast Inca terraces, and savor a five-course gourmet dinner paired with exquisite wines.

HIDDEN MYSTERIES OF PERU

LIMA | PUERTO MALDONADO | SACRED VALLEY | CUZCO | PUNO | PARACAS

Uncover Peru's treasures on this journey, from Inca culture to mystical Machu Picchu, the mysterious Nazca Lines, and lively Lima. Stay in a lodge in Puerto Maldonado for unforgettable ecological adventures, then explore the Sacred Valley's Pisac terraces, Cordillera Vilcabamba, and snow-capped Salkantay. Experience Machu Picchu, Peru's most iconic site and a New Seven Wonder of the World, along with Cusco's Koricancha Temple and Sacsayhuaman Fortress. Discover Taquile Island and the floating Uros Islands on Lake Titicaca, and take a flight over the Nazca Lines to view ancient desert geoglyphs.

13
DAYS

