

Chile & Peru

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FACTS

Capital: Santiago

Population: 17.6 million

Size : 756,950 km²

Length - 4,270 km

Average width - 177 km

Language: Spanish. English is spoken in many of the large hotels and tourist areas.

Official Time: GMT -4; GMT -3 in summer (Easter Island GMT -6)

Main Industries: Mining (mainly copper), tourism, wine and salmon exports, forestry and financial services.

International Dialling Code: +56

Currency: Chilean Peso (CLP)

Electricity: 220 Volts, 50 Hz sockets are 3 round pins in a line.



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Travel to Chile from the Falkland Islands
 LATAM schedule from Chile to the Falklands round-trip, Saturdays only :-
 Falklands 1412 Punta Arenas 1551
 Punta Arenas 1706 Santiago 2028
 Santiago 0645 Punta Arenas 1008
 Punta Arenas 1123 Falklands 1257

Chile

Torres del Paine / Patagonia

Fly into Punta Arenas and then transfer overland to Puerto Natales, the gateway to Torres del Paine National Park.

When to visit: October – March

Highlights: glaciers and forests, the W Trek, cross over the border to Calafate, Argentina to see Perito Moreno Glacier.

Lake District

Fly into Puerto Montt, connecting from either Punta Arenas or Santiago

When to visit: year round but better suited to September – April. Outside of those months it can be damp and foggy.

Highlights: Lakes and volcanoes, picturesque Puerto Varas and Frutillar with their German architectural influence, do the Lake Crossing from Petrohue to Bariloche, go back in time on Chiloe Island, or to Pucon for soft adventure.

Santiago

Fly into Santiago – Chile’s capital and a very cosmopolitan city with a Mediterranean climate, colonial architecture and attractions for all.

When to visit: year round

Highlights: access to the Pacific coast towns of Valparaiso & Viña del Mar, Easter Island, vineyards, and skiing in the Andes.

Easter Island

Approximately a 5.5 hour flight from Santiago

When to visit: year round

Highlights: the famous Moai statues, fascinating Polynesian culture.

Atacama Desert

Fly from Santiago to Calama (approximately a 2 hour flight), and transfer to San Pedro de Atacama.

When to visit: year round

Highlights: the driest desert in the world, Tatio geysers, salt lakes in a moonscape, cross over the Bolivian border to Uyuni. Beyond Atacama lie the towns of Iquique and Arica.

When to Travel

As befits a country that spans a range of latitudes, Chile has many different climatic regions.

The temperate north and sub-tropical Easter Island can be visited year round, while Santiago and the central regions of Chile have seasons that are the reverse to Europe. The Lake District is delightful in Chile’s spring and autumn, while the endless sunshine of the high summer

months of December and January attract many crowds.

As is the case in Argentina, Chile’s Patagonia has a very changeable climate, and being this far south you must be prepared for anything even during the optimum months (October to March), with the inclement winter weather from June to August rendering the area effectively closed.

CAR HIRE INFORMATION AND DRIVING DISTANCES

Chile has an abundance of stunning scenery and one of the pleasures of enjoying these diverse landscapes is to hire a vehicle and see everything at a leisurely pace. We can offer a wide range of vehicles, from cars to pick-ups and SUVs. Optional services available to enhance your rental experience such as GPS, additional insurance, car seats, etc. There are rental branches from Arica to Punta Arenas.

Five areas we can particularly recommend to cover with your own vehicle hire are:

- The Atacama Desert
- Central Valley Vineyards
- The Chilean Lake District
- The Austral Road
- Torres del Paine National Park

We have an extensive number of Fly and Drive programmes which include vehicle hire and your preferred choice of hotel category. Contact us for a quote or more information.

Driving Distances from Santiago to :

Valparaiso	120 km
Valle Nevado Ski	57 km
Portillo Ski	142 km
Chillan Ski	407 km
La Serena	474 km
Pucon	789 km
Puerto Montt	1490 km
Calama	1574 km
Iquique	1853 km
Arica	2062 km

Driving Distances from Puerto Montt to :

Bariloche	354 km
Frutillar	55 km
Petrohue	85 km
Osorno	109 km
Pucon/Temuco	340 km

Driving Distances from Punta Arenas to :

Puerto Natales	246 km
Torres del Paine	393 km
Ushuaia	673 km
El Calafate	605 km

Torres del Paine to El Calafate	362 km
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Punta Arenas

Gateway to Chilean Patagonia

Just over 2,100 km south of Santiago is Punta Arenas (or Sandy Point as its name translates) – the most southerly city in Chile. It faces the Straits of Magellan, is a pleasant city with a population of circa 150,000, and is linked by paved roads to Puerto Natales and Rio Gallegos. It originally started life nearby its present site, as a settlement created by Captain John Williams, a seaman from Bristol who was working for the Chileans, in order to deter any other country's colonists. It moved to its present site in 1848. After a brief period as an unsuccessful penal colony, it grew in the late 19th Century sheep boom and attracted many immigrants, mainly from Britain and the Balkans. Punta Arenas today is a small but thriving city, with revenue from tourism and oil. The main square is Plaza Muñoz Gamero with a striking statue of Magellan with a mermaid and two indigenous Fuegians at his feet. The city has attractive painted wooden buildings away from the centre of town. Look out for some good fish and seafood options on menus.



Suggested Hotels



Dreams Del Estrecho

The newest hotel in Punta Arenas based above the casino with some rooms overlooking the Magellan Straits. Enjoy the spa, sauna, indoor pool & gym.



Cabo de Hornos

Located on the main square, with bright and spacious rooms, this traditional hotel is also equipped with a very good restaurant.



Diego del Almagro

Located on the waterfront with view across the Magellan Straits, this hotel offers big bright rooms. Interconnecting rooms and a large indoor pool make it ideal for families.



Jose Nogueira

In the centre of Punta Arenas is one of the oldest buildings of the entire Patagonia, the century-old mansion of Don José Nogueira and Doña Sara Braun, two characters who "wrote" the history of Patagonia with their adventures. In 1982 the building was declared a National Monument and therefore, its characteristics cannot be modified. The suites are particularly attractive, and teamed with a pleasant restaurant and bar it offers a pleasant base.

Suggested Day Excursions

ISLA MAGADALENA

A small island 30 km northeast of Punta Arenas is the location of the Monumento Natural Los Pingüinos, a colony of around 60,000 Magellanic penguins – one of the largest in Chile. There are daily departures from Tres Puentes pier in Punta Arenas with a two hour boat trip in each direction and approximately one hour ashore.

PENITENTE FARM

This typical Patagonian farm, named after the river crossing the area, is located 135 km to the north of the city of Punta Arenas. The excursion begins along the shores of the Straits of Magellan, and continues through the vast Patagonian steppe with a chance of seeing lesser rhea, crested caracara, ibis and the Chilean flamingo. On arrival enjoy a welcome cocktail followed by a tour around the house telling of the family history. Afterwards enjoy a typical Patagonian lamb barbecue. As optional extension a sheep shearing show is held in the farm. With pre booking it is also possible to practice fly fishing at this destination.

FUERTE BULNES & PUERTO DE HAMBRE

The Patagonia History Park lies approximately 50 km south of Punta Arenas, a 130 hectare forest predominately of nothofagus (southern Beech) trees. The park's most popular attraction is Fort Bulnes, a replica of the wooden fort erected in 1843 to guard southern territories after Independence was declared. The Barrack, jail, North & South battery, chapel, stables and other buildings contained by the Fort's stockade are part of the route covered by the tour. Just a few steps from the Fort, you will find the "Mirador Panorámico", where you can get panoramic view of the Straits of Magellan. Finally before heading back to Punta Arenas visit the Puerto de Hambre sector, the spot where the largest "conquistador" fleet that ever left Spain, chose as the site to build the "City of King Phillip" in 1584.

Cruise the Channels of Tierra del Fuego

Explore with Cruceros Australis the wonders of the southern most Patagonian channels and see the main attractions of Tierra del Fuego, the Straits of Magellan, the Beagle Channel and Cape Horn.

The bottom of the world awaits you aboard these expedition cruise ships on journeys that retrace much of Darwin's route through the Fuegian archipelago aboard HMS *Beagle*. Visit legendary Cape Horn, historic Wulaia Bay and the spectacular Glacier Alley. Visit Magellanic penguin colonies on Magdalena and Tuckers islets as well as ice fields, fjords, sub-polar forests and secluded beaches. The scenic maritime route through the fjords of Tierra del Fuego will take your breath away as you cruise amongst the natural beauty of the Patagonian flora, fauna and geology.

The expedition team and entire crew will be in charge of making sure your trip is pleasant, fun, and interesting. They will organize activities onboard in a friendly and warm atmosphere. You will be able to participate in daily excursions on zodiac boats with their expert guides. They will give audiovisual talks about the flora and fauna, geography, glaciology, ethnography, and the history of the Patagonia region. The official languages on board are Spanish and English.



Excursions

Wulaia Bay is a historical site and was one of the largest settlements of the original canoeing inhabitants of the region, the Yamana. Charles Darwin went ashore at this location on January 23rd 1833 during his voyage on board HMS *Beagle*. This location offers a visual spectacle of great beauty because of its vegetation and geography. Arrive at a lookout point, walking through the Magellanic forest, where native trees such as lengas, coigües, canelos, and ferns, among other species, grow.

Cape Horn National Park The mythical Cape Horn, an almost vertical 425 metre high cliff was discovered in 1616. For many years it was an important navigation route for sailboats sailing between the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans. Known as the end of the world it was declared a Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO in June, 2005.

Pía Glacier Head towards a lookout point offering excellent conditions for observing the mountain range and where this impressive glacier originates and its entire displacement can be seen until it reaches the sea.

Piloto and Nena Glaciers View the glaciers from the zodiac boats. The intense blue colour of the Piloto glacier is awe-inspiring due to its age and compression. Learn about the formation of the glaciers and their influence on the abrupt geography of the Tierra del Fuego- Patagonian channels.

Águila Glacier Disembark for an easy walk on the shore of a lagoon surrounded by mountains until you reach the glacier. We can see the cold rainforest of Patagonia and the movements that shaped the landscape of this amazing place.

Tuckers Islets Observe Magellanic penguins and cormorants from the Zodiac boats.

Ainsworth Bay near the Marinelli Glacier, in the Darwin Mountain Range and inside the Alberto de Agostini National Park. Take a walk exploring a beaver dam and the wonderful surrounding sub-polar Magellanic forest. On the beach you may see elephant seals although a sighting is not guaranteed as the exact location of the colony is unpredictable.

CHOOSE FROM :

- 3 or 4 night one way trips (Ushuaia – Punta Arenas or vice versa)
- 3, 5 or 7 night round trips Ushuaia – Ushuaia or Punta Arenas – Punta Arenas



Puerto Natales

Lying approximately 3 hours drive (250 km) north from Punta Arenas, Puerto Natales is a quiet town of brightly corrugated roofs. It is the base for exploring the majestic Torres del Paine National Park, and also the arrival / departure point for the Navimag ferry from Puerto Montt (see page 9). The ferry also operates in reverse (Puerto Montt to Puerto Natales)

Suggested Hotels



Costaustralis

Facing the fjord of Last Hope, Hotel Costaustralis stands out for its traditional building land marking the entrance of the city of Puerto Natales. Inside, it houses the history and traditions of the area with its warm, personalized service along with its sober and elegant décor accented by the great presence of local pieces. Costaustralis Hotel boasts 110 comfortable rooms designed to provide total relaxation as well as high-level food service emphasizing the traditional Patagonian Quincho, a grilling area where it is possible to enjoy an exquisite skewered lamb.

Remota

A boutique hotel with an ultra modern and environmentally friendly design on the water's edge just to the north of the town. Its public areas are dominated by open fires and spectacular views. Located in front of the Última Esperanza Bay and only a few minutes away from Puerto Natales, Remota is an ecological and sustainable hotel, built with noble materials, with great luminosity, natural ventilations and a highly efficient energy use.

ALTIPLANICO

Altiplanico

Merging into the hillside overlooking the Última Esperanza Gulf and the Baquedano Glacier, Altiplanico Sur in Puerto Natales offers an experience that combines the awe inspiring nature and the interior charm of the Altiplanico style. The hotel features 22 uniquely designed rooms with the stunning Patagonian landscape as your guest, sheltering you from the powerful climate and inviting you to relax in a hot tub overlooking the cold waters of this southern latitude.



Weskar Lodge

Weskar Lodge is a cosy little hotel with just 28 rooms located on the coastline of the city of Puerto Natales. Thanks to its proximity to the fjord and its location at 22 m above sea level it offers clean and stunning views of the Seno Última Esperanza and the Patagonian Andes, which makes the hotel one of the best postcards of the city. In Weskar it is possible to enjoy the Magellanic cuisine along with the warmest service from the people who live at the end of the world.



Suggested Day Excursions

FULL DAY PARK TOUR

Starting at 0800 hrs the tour heads first to the Milodon Cave where in 1895 parts of a prehistoric animal known as milodon were found. Nowadays a replica of this mammal can be found inside along with information on the geological process on the caves formation. The tour continues to Cerro Castillo village to take a rest and to enjoy with the following services: snack bar, groceries, and souvenir shops. From here we head to Laguna Azul, named for the intense colour of its water, which is located 40 minutes from the main entrance to the Torres del Paine National Park. From here there are good view of Torres del Paine (the Towers), Cuernos del Paine and Almirante Nieto mountain. Guanacos, ñandu and condor are commonly seen. Inside the park we will head for Pehoe and Nordenskjold lakes, known for their turquoise blue water, waterfalls, glacier covered mountains. We will walk 15 minutes to get to the "Salto Grande" waterfall. Following lunch we will drive to Grey Glacier. We return to Puerto Natales by the same road or well to take the new route to Puerto Natales and finally we will drop you off back at your selected hotel at around 19:00 hours.

Suggested Programme

NAVIMAG FERRY

The Navimag company operates boats along the southern Chilean coast between Puerto Montt and Puerto Natales. These are not, by any stretch of the imagination, luxury cruises and nor do they try to be. The old ships are crucial to the more remote parts of this part of Chile as they are the only regular means of supply. The boats attract a great range of passengers and have various different types of cabin to reflect this. We recommend the private AAA cabins which allow you access to a dining room shared between the 16 guests staying in this cabin category.

There are no excursions from the ship as you travel through the fjords but the scenery is breathtaking meaning you will want to spend as much time as possible on deck. In the evenings there are often short lectures on the flora, fauna, geology or history of the region. You can also visit the Bridge and speak to the Captain throughout the journey.

Itineraries operate in both directions but a sample southbound itinerary is as follows :

Day 1: PUERTO NATALES – ANGOSTURA WHITE

Check-in is from 09:00 until 12:00 at our offices located at Pedro Montt #308, Puerto Natales, where our port staff will check in your luggage and, if you have made a reservation to travel with a vehicle, give you instructions for boarding it. Boarding time for passengers is 14:00 hrs. Once on board, members of the crew will give a welcome talk to the passengers, along

with some guidelines regarding safety on board. Our journey will take us through the Patagonian fjords towards our final destination of Puerto Montt. We set sail at 16:00 hours, crossing Seno Unión (Union Bay) and on through the Angostura White (White Narrows), which, at only 80 m wide, is the narrowest stretch of the route. We then reach the southernmost latitude of our voyage, Sobenes Pass, from where we continue on along the Farquhar to the Sarmiento channel. In the afternoon we will reach Peet Inlet.

Day 2: PUERTO EDÉN – BAJO COTOPAXI

We will arrive to Puerto Edén at sunrise, which is located in Wellington Island, one of the biggest in Chile. It is part of Bernardo O'Higgins National Park. We continue our voyage, heading North as far as the Angostura Inglesa (English Narrows), so narrow that only one ship can pass through at a time. From here we will sail through Messier Channel, where the cargo ship "Capitán Leonidas", which ran aground in the 1970s on a semi-sunken island called "Bajo Cotopaxi" can be seen. Nowadays, the ship is used as a lighthouse and a point of reference for sailors. Towards evening, we will set sail over the ocean across the Gulf of Penas. This open-sea crossing lasts approximately 12 hours. During this time you may be able to see humpback whales (depending on the time of year and the weather). Disembarkation at Puerto Edén are only possible if sea conditions, itinerary and weather permitting.

Day 3: INCHEMÓ – GULF OF CORCOVADO

At dawn we will arrive at Inchemó, which is the point of entry to the Channels near the Campo de Hielo Norte (the Northern Patagonian Ice Field). We will sail up the Pulluche Channel, the most abundant in vegetation ("Lenga" and Cypress forests) and, if we are lucky, we might spot some "Toninas" (dolphins), sea lions and wild bird species. Next we will sail through the Errázuriz and Costa Channels before arriving at the Moraleda Channel after lunch. This will finally lead us to the Gulf of Corcovado, where, at certain times of the year, Blue Whales can sometimes be sighted.

Day 4: GULF OF ANCUD – PUERTO MONTT

As we approach the end of our journey, we sail across the Gulf of Ancud and Reloncaví Sound, before arriving at Puerto Montt.

There are several different vessels but all offer the following cabin types :

AAA Cabin: double with window and private bathroom inside the cabin

BB Cabin: double with window and shared bathroom

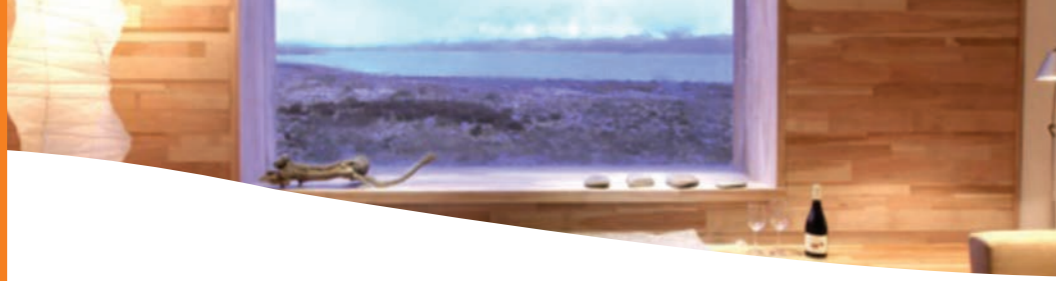
CC Cabin: double without window and shared bathroom

C Cabin: triple without window and shared bathroom

Torres Del Paine National Park

Torres del Paine, taking its name from the Tehuelche word Paine meaning 'blue', is considered by most, as South America's finest National Park, which is home to huge towering peaks that were created during the Ice Age and are still topped with glaciers today. The park, covering an area of 242,242 ha, is 110 km north of Puerto Natales, and is recognized as one of the new Seven Wonders of the World, and was declared a Biosphere Reservation by UNESCO in 1978. The two Cuernos (the Horns) and the Torres (Towers) are surrounded by a string of aquamarine, emerald and turquoise lakes. With its beautiful setting it has made a fantastic destination for hikers and backpackers, ecology-lovers and adventure sportsmen alike. Snow-capped mountain tops, cascading rivers, waterfalls and glaciers. There is approximately 250 km of well-marked trails you can follow on your own, guided day-walks and longer hikes of several days' duration, camping and staying in refugios (refuges).

There are entrances to the Park at Laguna Amarga, Lago Sarmiento, Laguna Azul and the Puente Serrano. You are required to register and show your passport on entry. Please note there is an entry fee of USD25 (2017) per person for entry into the Park. This will be included in the cost of your itinerary if the transfer into the park forms part of your services booked through ITT.



Suggested Hotels



Hosteria Las Torres

Located at the foot of the park's granite towers this hotel has an unbeatable location within the park, ideally located for all excursions and tours on foot, horseback or by vehicle, as well as offering a series of massages and spa treatments. The hotel is proud of the kitchen garden which provides many ingredients for its fresh meals.



Hosteria Lago Grey

It's the lake-side location that makes this hosteria such a popular choice among visitors, with views of Glacier Grey and the Torres del Paine Massif. A modest establishment, it nonetheless has a most agreeable ambience. Superior rooms stand out as being unique in the Torres del Paine National Park overlooking the Paine Massif and the amazing Lake and Glacier Grey, and from the hotel, you may embark on "Grey II" for a 3 hours navigation to enjoy a unique landscape composed of floating icebergs, towering mountains and lush vegetation.



Hotel Rio Serrano

The Hotel was named after the meandering Rio Serrano born from the waters of Toro Lake and flows into Seno Ultima Esperanza. Its privileged location facing the Horns of Paine and surrounded by a wonderful natural environment, provides the perfect combination of design, quality and comfort, keeping balance with their environment. The hotel is surrounded by natural beauty, which boasts spectacular panoramic views from each of its dependencies. The spacious areas emphasize elegance and quality assuring a quiet and relaxed atmosphere.



tierrapatagonia
THE SPIRIT OF THE FAR SOUTH

Tierra Patagonia

A contemporary, designer hotel in a wilderness setting, with luxurious facilities, top class guided excursions and superior cuisine. Daily excursions with experienced guides enable guests to discover the Patagonian wildlife, local estancias and the surrounding pampas. Riding with gauchos, hiking to the base of the mythical Torres and adventures on four wheels visiting waterfalls, woodlands and iceberg filled lakes are just some of the experiences on offer. A dip in the infinity pool of the luxurious Uma Spa with yet more inspiring views followed by cocktails around an open fire before dinner is a truly idyllic way to end the day. This hotel has sister properties in Atacama and on Easter Island.

There is a range of refugios for those looking for the budget option in Torres del Paine. Further information is available on request.

Excursions in Torres Del Paine

Available from the accommodations within the Park

GLACIER GREY LAKE NAVIGATION

HALF DAY EXCURSION

We depart on a sailing from Hotel Lago Grey to appreciate the glacier of the same name, a natural wonder of imposing dimensions that forms part of the southern extreme of the Continental Southern Ice Field (Campo de Hielo Sur). On this journey of three hours duration, we will board the "Grey II" vessel which will allow us to enjoy the unique landscape with floating icebergs, towering mountains and lush vegetation.

Among the numerous floating icebergs, the boat will sail right in front of the Grey Glacier, which is divided by a central island, a place where disembarkation is allowed and from where it is possible to appreciate the full extent of the countless cracks and uprisings that constitute the glacier and which disappears into the distance. After our cruise, it is time to return to Hotel Lago Grey.

BASE OF THE TOWERS GUIDED HIKE

FULL DAY EXCURSION

This is one of the most iconic treks in Patagonia. The Granite towers soar majestically thousands of metres into the air creating the centre piece of the whole park. The trek will take you along stunning valleys and over small streams, while there is always the chance of spotting condors floating on the thermals. Towards the end of the valley the path becomes hard work as you climb up to the look out, it is best compared to climbing up an even staircase of several hundred steps. This is strenuous but is more than worth the effort as you have all day to complete the trek you can take this part as gently as you need to.



Special Product

PATAGONIA CAMP
Unique Nature Experience



Patagonia Camp

Located on the shores of Lago Toro, about an hour from Puerto Natales and hour from the famous towers

of Torres del Paine, Patagonia Camp accommodates its guests in "yurts" or wooden tents with central heating and en suite facilities. Each yurt has fantastic views and a private balcony and a skylight in the roof so you can view stars from your bed. There is a central dining area where great food

is served while you admire the view through the massive picture window. All excursions are included in the room rate as are all meals, half a bottle of wine per person or a soft drink with meals and a 250 cc bottle of water per person on excursions.



The W Trek

This trek can be done in either direction either as a guided tour or at your own leisure, staying at refugios within the camp for a budget option or combining those with some lodge / hotel stays if you prefer.

Sample itinerary :

W CIRCUIT REGULAR 04 DAYS / 03 NIGHTS

Day 1: Transport to Torres del Paine National Park (Regular Bus).

Departure: 14:30 / Arrival: 16:30

At the moment you arrive to Laguna Amarga entrance you will have to acquire your entrance ticket and take the shuttles that will be waiting for you to take you to Las Torres sector where our Refugio is located. The entrance to the Torres del Paine National Park is via the concierge at Laguna Amarga. In this place you must go down and buy the ticket for admission to the park. Is subsequently transfer to the Shuttles are waiting for transfer to Refugio Las Torres.

Accommodation: Refugio Torre Central.

Day 2: Trekking Mirador Base Torres (6 – 8 hours)

Difficulty Level: High – Recommended hour to start: 09:00

The first hour and a half is up with fantastic views of lake Nordenskjöld and Almirante Nieto Mn (2,670 MASL) with its hanging glacier until you reach Refugio El Chileno to recover energies and leave your luggage. Then with a small backpack you will continue the trail through a millenary Lenga forest (1 hour) until the base of “the moraine” which challenging ascent (45 min), will take you to one of the most impressive places in the park: the lookout of the “Base of Torres del Paine” where you will enjoy the view of Torre Sur (2,850 MASL), Torre Central (2,800 MASL), Torre Norte (2,600 MASL) and Cerro Nido de Cóndor.

Accommodation: Refugio El Chileno

Day 3: Trekking from El Chileno to Los Cuernos Refugio (4 – 5 hours)

Difficulty Level: Medium – Recommended hour to start: 09:00

About 30 minutes after leaving Refugio El Chileno you will notice the sign to take the “shortcut” that leads to Refugio Los Cuernos. The trail goes through the Base of Almirante Nieto Mn. – part of the Paine Massif, with great views to Nordenskjöld lake; from December the flora presents different colours specially the “Ciruelillo” or “Fire Bush” which take its name from the red colour of its flowers. After about 4 – 5 hours you will get to the Base of Los Cuernos where our Refugio is located, considered by many, one of the most charming sites in the whole park, a perfect spot to rest and recover energies for the next day challenging trek: “The French Valley”.

Accommodation: Refugio Los Cuernos.

- We recommend arriving early to rest and regain energy for the next day.
- Depending on availability, we recommend Cabins Los Cuernos for 2 people, spectacular views and exclusive right to the HOT TUB (do not forget your swimsuit!)

Day 4: Trekking to French Valley (10 – 12 hours)

Difficulty Level: High – Recommended hour to start: 09:00

The first 2 hours are with some ups and downs and views to Nordenskjöld Lake, until “Campamento Italiano”, at this point we recommend you to contact CONAF people so you may leave your Big Back Pack with them and start the next part of the trek with a small day backpack. The ascent goes for about 1 hour and a half until Paine Grande lookout, where you’ll be able to observe its hanging glacier and opportunities to observe small avalanches. After that the trail continues until “Campamento Británico” and after about 20 minutes from it, you will reach the lookout point considered by many as one of the most overwhelming spots in the Circuit: “Mirador Valle del Francés”, where you will admire: “Paine Grande”, “Cerro Hoja”, “Cerro Máscara”, “Cerro Catedral”, “Cerro Aleta de Tiburón”, “Cuerno Norte”, etc.

The return is the same way back to “Campamento Italiano”, and then to Pehoe sector.

Accommodation: Lodge Paine Grande



Day 5: Trekking to Grey Glacier (8 – 9 hours)

Difficulty Level: Medium – Recommended hour to start: 09:00

Trek to Grey Glacier lookout (round trip). The trail goes through the western side of the Paine Massif with views to the Grey Lake and Mountains. After 1 hour and a half you will reach the first lookout point, where you may observe Grey Glacier in the distance, after 1 hour and a half you will get to the Main lookout, just in front of the glacier. The return is the same way back until Pehoe Lake to take the Catamaran that crosses Pehoe Lake at 18.30 hrs to Pudeto sector, where your bus will be waiting for you to take you back to Puerto Natales (arrival time to Puerto Natales: around 17.00 hrs).

CLASSIC PATAGONIA PUERTO NATALES & TORRES DEL PAINE 04 DAYS / 03 NIGHTS

Day 1: PUNTA ARENAS – PUERTO NATALES

Reception at the Punta Arenas Airport and transfer to Puerto Natales. Patagonian town located in front of the Last Hope Sound. Overnight at the hotel in Puerto Natales.

Day 2: PUERTO NATALES

Buffet breakfast at the hotel. We will sail across the Last Hope Sound towards the Balmaceda and Serrano glacier. We will proceed to the Balmaceda Mountain (2,035 MASL) draped with glaciers branching off the huge Patagonian icecap to the sea; the boat skirts the Balmaceda Glacier. Through a native forest, head to the Serrano Glacier. The rugged scenery around the Last

Hope Sound forms a superb backdrop. We will head to an Estate where we will enjoy a Chilean-style barbecue. Transfer back to the hotel. Overnight in Puerto Natales.

Day 3: PUERTO NATALES – TORRES DEL PAINE

Buffet breakfast at the hotel. From the hotel in Puerto Natales, toward the Torres del Paine National Park, we will enjoy the most diverse landscapes, such as, the Magellan deciduous forest and the vast Patagonian steppe dominated by the wind and aridity. We will arrive to the park granted the status of Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO. The landscape changes drastically to several lakes populated by sea birds, granite picks dominating the area in the background, turquoise lakes, waterfalls and icecovered mountains. We will get deep into the park, heading along the Salto Grande Waterfall that communicates two big lakes inside the park; the Nordenskjöld and Pehoe Lakes. We will walk along the shores of the Grey Lake, where blue

Day 4: TORRES DEL PAINE – PUNTA ARENAS

Buffet breakfast at the hotel. At the scheduled time, transfer to the airport to take the departure flight.

Or extend your time with additional nights within Torres del Paine National Park, maybe switching hotel to spend two nights in two different locations; alternatively you may also wish to consider crossing over to Calafate, Argentina for a couple of nights to include a visit to Perito Moreno Glacier.



Puerto Montt & Puerto Varas

Chile's Lake District starts in Temuco and stretches 300 km south to Puerto Montt – an incredibly picturesque region of the bluest waters, white-tipped volcanoes (6 in total), waterfalls and ancient forests, perfect for gentle sightseeing and relaxing in thermal pools or soft adventure such as hiking, biking, kayaking and riding. We recommend that for sightseeing you base yourself in the picturesque lakeside town of Puerto Varas, only 20 minutes drive from Puerto Montt airport. Sitting on the edge of Lake Llanquihue and opposite the perfect cone of Osorno Volcano, the town has a strong German influence in its architecture which is even more accentuated in the nearby Puerto Octay which can be visited as part of a day excursion from Puerto Varas. Local culture and traditions are also influenced by the Mapuche heritage. Other places to search out in this area are the lakeside resort of Frutillar, the small fishing village and now handicraft shop centre at Angelmo just on the outskirts of Puerto Montt, and the mysterious island of Chiloe.

Suggested Hotels



Radisson Hotel Puerto Varas

A magical hotel on the shores of the Llanquihue Lake, surrounded by volcanoes and the entertainment that the city offers. Radisson Hotel Puerto Varas opened in February 2009 and it was conceived as a luxury space in the heart of the charming town of Puerto Varas, with the Osorno and the Calbuco volcanoes as a backdrop; and to fulfil all the comfort needs of a knowledgeable guest who knows about international standards of quality. Its structure was trusted to the most outstanding architecture and interior design firms in the country.



Cumbres

This is a relatively large, imposing first class hotel built in typical Patagonian style of wood and stone with glorious panoramic views from its position on a hillock overlooking Lake Lanquihue. Located on the higher levels of the hotel with the imposing presence of the lake and its volcanoes, the SPA, with a heated pool, sauna and gym, offers exclusive beauty, relaxation and health treatments.



Bellavista

The breathtaking view from their rooms to the Lake Llanquihue and volcanoes and the perfect location just steps from the casino and the city centre, makes this hotel the starting point to all tourist attractions in the area. Along with excellent cuisine, event centre and guest service, Hotel Bellavista becomes a great alternative for tourism, entertainment, culture, sports, or just the perfect place to relax.



Natura, Peulla

With mountain-style architecture in native woods, Hotel Natura offers a warm welcome to those choosing an adventure in this natural setting. The hotel is located in Peulla, a small lakeside port on the western shore of Lake Todos los Santos. The closest town to this location is Petrohue, at 20 nautical miles, on the eastern shore of the lake. There is no land route between these two locations, so they only communicate via boats across Lake Todos los Santos. This port is also very close to the border with Argentina.

Suggested Day Excursions

FRUTILLAR & PUERTO OCTAY

"El Frutillar", was founded in 1856 by German settlers who began building the traditional churches and German-style wooden houses with slanting roofs and an archway that still embellish the atmosphere at Llanquihue lake. Frutillar is not only known by the beauty of its surroundings, but also because of the 'Semanas Musicales de Frutillar' organised in February every year and of course because of the delicious German confectionery.

Departure from Puerto Varas, on the borders of Llanquihue Lake, one of the first cities created by German settlers in the South of Chile. Following the edge of Llanquihue Lake, arrival to Llanquihue, city famous for the making of sausages and cured meat. It is also here where the lake becomes the source of Maullín River. From here and following the Settler's route, arrival to Frutillar; visit to the tribute to the German Settlers. Visit to the Colonial Museum of Frutillar and then lunch by the lake, from where volcanoes Calbuco, Osorno, Puntagudo, and Puyehue can be seen, along with German colonial style houses. Frutillar is renowned for their delicious confectionery of European origin, such as kuchen and strudel. At the end of the journey, the tour continues to Puerto Octay, to see the small but picturesque city's main square, next to the church. Return to the hotel in Puerto Varas.

OSORNO VOLCANO & PETROHUE FALLS

Departure from Puerto Varas bordering Llanquihue Lake heading towards Ensenada. Entrance to Vicente Perez Rosales National Park, visiting the beautiful Petrohué Falls formed by volcanic rocks in Petrohué River. The emerald green coloured waters of these falls amidst millenary forests captivate the visitor's attention. The excursion heads to Osorno Volcano, walking through forests of coigüe trees and other native species. A stop is made at 1,000 MASL, to watch La Burbuja Crater, having a great view of the valley, Petrohué River, and Calbuco Volcano in the Andes Mountain Range. The tour continues with an ascent to the ski centre, at 1,200 MASL. On the way, it is possible to see the lava formations from earlier volcanic eruptions. A last stop is made to get a panoramic view from the top of the Osorno Volcano. Return to the hotel in Puerto Varas.

LAKE CROSSING TO PEULLA

Depart from your hotel in Puerto Varas towards the south shore of Lake Llanquihue, until reaching the Vicente Pérez Rosales Park and where you will appreciate the Petrohué River Falls, where the river water flows over the volcanic lava rocks unfolding to an incredible natural spectacle. Next, board the navigation that will take us to Peulla, a small ecological village of 120 inhabitants forming part of the tourist circuit Cruce Andino®. Sail Todos Los Santos Lake for 1 hour and 45 minutes, and observe the Osorno, Puntagudo and Tronador Volcanoes. In Peulla, we will have the opportunity to participate in some of the available outdoor activities, visit the waterfall known as the Bridal Veil or simply enjoy the tranquillity of this place. Finally, embark for your return to the city of Puerto Varas.

LAKE CROSSING

In addition to the one day excursion to Peulla it is also possible to extend the Lake Crossing to take you as far as Bariloche in Argentina's Lake District. Whilst this can be done in one day we would very much recommend that you take it at more leisurely pace and stop off overnight at Peulla. This tour can also be done in reverse from Argentina to Chile.

LAKE CROSSING CHILE – ARGENTINA

Day 1: Take a journey through forests and along the shores of Lake Llanquihue to Lake Todos los Santos. At Petrohue embark on a 2 hour cruise across the emerald lake, flanked by volcanoes to the tiny village of Peulla. Stay at Hotel Natura.

Day 2: More outstanding scenery awaits travelling through the Andean rainforest into Argentina, travel by boat cross Lake Frias, then by bus through a beautiful Andean Larch forest to Puerto Lest. Embark on a catamaran cruise across Lake Nahuel Huapi and from Puerto Pañuelo complete this amazing journey by road to Bariloche.

After spending a night or more enjoying the scenery and chocolate of Bariloche you can return by the same route (straight through in one day if you wish) or by bus to Puerto Montt.





Suggested Itinerary

DISCOVERING LAKES, VOLCANOES & BARILOCHE

06 days / 05 nights

Day 1: ARRIVE IN LAKE DISTRICT

Eat in bus transfer from Puerto Montt Airport to your hotel in Puerto Varas. Remainder of day at leisure. Overnight in Puerto Varas.

Day 2: DAY TRIP TO FRUTILLAR

Depart from your hotel in Puerto Varas and head to Frutillar following the shores of the Llanquihue Lake passing by the village of Llanquihue, well-known for its sausage and cured meat production. Here the lake becomes the source of the Maullín River. Continue your journey across the Settler's route until reaching Frutillar. This city was founded in 1856 as a shipping port for the settlers living next to the Llanquihue Lake. Here you will enjoy a superb view of the Osorno Volcano and the highly influenced German architecture of its houses. Visit the tribute to the German Settlers and the Museo Colonial Alemán (German Colonization Museum) that provides an excellent insight into the life of the German Settlers. Return to your hotel in Puerto Varas.

Day 3: ANDEAN CROSSING PUERTO VARAS / BARILOCHE

Puerto Varas and Bariloche, two cities full of magic and charm, are both starting points of this marvellous trip across the Andes. Two of the best kept secrets nestled in the heart of the mountain range, Peulla and Puerto Blest, are places that offer unique landscapes, bright emerald lakes, native rainforests, scents of untouched nature and the warmth of its people that accompany its guests throughout this unique adventure. Cruce Andino, Harborage of magical places.

Departure from Puerto Varas to Petrohue - Brief visit to Petrohue Riverfalls (Entrance not included) - Andean Crossing Sailing to Peulla - Bus trip crossing Chile-Argentina to Puerto Frias - Puerto Alegre Lake Sailing - Bus trip to Puerto Blest - Nahuel Huapi Lake Sailing - Bus trip to the city of San Carlos de Bariloche - Overnight in Bariloche.

Day 4: CHICO BARILOCHE CIRCUIT INCLUDING CERRO CAMPANARIO

Bariloche is a quaint Swiss style town and the gateway to the famous Lakes District, located on the southern shore of the Nahuel Huapi Lake. This vast area in the southern Andes of Argentina and Chile is considered one of the most beautiful regions with its lakes, rivers, snow capped peaks, abundance of flora and fauna. Bariloche is also famous for its ski fields and chocolate shops. 09:00 hotel pick up for a sightseeing tour along the Nahuel-Huapi National Park, visiting the Cerro Campanario and take the chair-lift to the top of the hill from where the spectacular beauty of the region can be appreciated. Continue to Llao Llao Peninsula and the San Eduardo Chapel, an architectural treasure. Drop off at hotel around 13:00 hrs. Overnight in Bariloche.

Day 5: RETURN TO PUERTO VARAS

Breakfast followed by shared transfer from your hotel to the bus terminal in Bariloche. Bus trip across the Andes from Bariloche to Puerto Varas. Overnight in Puerto Varas.

Day 6: DEPART THE LAKE DISTRICT

Breakfast followed by a transfer to Puerto Montt Airport.

Bariloche

Discover Argentina's Lake District

Argentina's Lake District is a beautiful area of glacial lakes, emerald forests and extinct snow-capped volcanoes. Often compared to the picture-perfect scenery of Switzerland because of its clean, crisp air, abundance of flowers and glittering waters and by the chalet-style architecture established by the early German and Swiss settlers, this region nonetheless has very distinct flavour that is all its own.

The two main centres are San Martín de los Andes in the north and San Carlos de Bariloche in the south. Either is an ideal base from which to explore the abundance of pristine national parks throughout this area although Bariloche with its Alpine feel is the better known town with a wider range of accommodation options. Beautifully situated on the southern shore of Lago Nahuel Huapi it is right in the middle of the national park of the same name.

To the immediate south of Bariloche there are tremendous hikes up giant Mount Tronador; there are also many great cycle routes around the area. For a more relaxed approach from Bariloche you may want to take a chairlift ride to soak up panoramic views of lakes and volcanoes stretching as far as the eye can see, or simply unwind and hunt out the best chocolate shops in town! In the Austral winter the town becomes a popular ski resort - Cerro Catedral is arguably the best resort in South America and also makes a great base for hiking in summer.

Bariloche is well set-up for tourism with lots of hotels and restaurants in the town centre and even more appealing places along the shore of the lake towards Llao Llao, where Argentina's most famous hotel enjoys a spectacular setting. This is also the starting point for the picturesque three lakes crossing to Puerto Montt in Chile.

San Martín de los Andes is a charming town nestled in a beautiful valley surrounded by steep mountains on the edge of Lago Lacar. It is a good centre for exploring southern parts of the Parque Nacional Lanín and lakes Lolog and Lacar, where there are beaches for relaxing and good opportunities for water sports, mountain biking and trekking.



Suggested Hotels



Llao Llao

Surrounded by the Cerro Lopez and Tronador mountain peaks and the Moreno and Nahuel Huapi lakes. The Hotel has a 15 hectare park, including the 18 hole golf course, the marina, beach, solarium, heated indoor and outdoor infinity edge swimming-pools, spa and health club with sauna, fitness centre and other leisure activities.



NH Edelweiss

Warmth and modernity gather to create a comfortable space. A bright and spacious lobby, stone fireplace, and delicate floral arrangements provide a pleasant and natural atmosphere. The hotel has 97 rooms equipped with technology and amenities that meet the needs of passengers from all over the globe.



Nevada

Located in one of the most beautiful places in Patagonia, in the centre of Bariloche, the Nevada Hotel offers all the comfort and style to have a unique experience. The Nevada Hotel is strategically located in the centre of the city of San Carlos de Bariloche, you can easily access to the shopping centre, local attractions, movie theatre, museums and restaurants.



Suggested Day Excursions

LARGE CIRCUIT OF BARILOCHE

Departure from hotel in Bariloche, taking the route that goes to Villa La Angostura. Leaving this urban centre and crossing the Correntoso River Bridge, through the beginnings of the route of the seven lakes. In El Portezuelo, the road intersects the national route 65 that leads to Traful Village. This little mountain village is typical of Patagonia, it has a simple but charming style and it is located by Traful Lake. Visit to the Mirador del Viento, name given due to the strong wind that blows in the area. Chance to enjoy a hot chocolate and cakes in one of the many renowned tea houses of the place. Arrival to Confluencia, entering route 237 that runs through the Limay River Valley, known as the Enchanted Valley as well. Transfer back to the hotel in Bariloche.

EL BOLSÓN & PUELO LAKE

Departure from hotel in Bariloche, turning South, going round Gutierrez, Mascardi and Guillermo lakes, to then cross Pampa del Toro and Cañadón de la Mosca in order to hit the road that leads directly to El Bolsón. Surrounded by Quemquemtreu River and Piltriquitrón Hill, El Bolsón borough is the southernmost community in Río Negro Province. The city is only 300 MASL and has a microclimate that is ideal for the production of fine fruit and hop, in addition to traditional products such as handmade sweets, items in leather, wood, and knitting. It also has excellent gastronomic services. Visit to the crafts fair located on the main square of the city, with the chance of seeing a farm, a salmon growing centre, or the beer factory. Return to the hotel in Bariloche.

CATEDRAL HILL

Departure from Bariloche, to Catedral Hill, one of the most important winter centres in Argentina, where the main ski championships in Argentina take place. The name of the hill comes from the similarity it has with the towers of a gothic cathedral. National and international competitions of all levels take place in the Antonio Ft Lynch ski centre, including also snowboard and acrobatic ski competitions. From the base, optional air-chair ride up to the skiing platforms. Free time to enjoy the landscape and taking photographs of the Andes mountain range. Descent and return to Bariloche.

Do the Lake Crossing to Peulla and on to Puerto Varas / Puerto Montt (see the section of Puerto varas / Puerto Montt for more details).

Special Products for the Lake District



Quincho Country Home

10 km from Puerto Varas en route to volcanoes and overlooking deep blue Lake Llanquihue - Quincho Country Home is an oasis of hospitality, privacy, and beautifully crafted accommodation. Wood at Quincho is used in a combination of traditional and modern lines, while natural textures and colours invite relaxation. All this is complemented by good company, fine wine and delicious home cooked cuisine with fresh, local ingredients. A range of private excursions are included; visit nearby volcanoes and waterfalls, the island of Chiloe, the estuary at Ralún. Or, choose from horse-riding, kayaking, trekking or golf. With only 4 rooms, each guest at Quincho is attended to with great care and attention to detail. The charming hosts strive to make your stay unforgettable, to transmit a true experience of the Chilean Lakes.



Puyuhuapi Lodge & Spa

From the moment you first set eyes on the hotel, stretched out across its own bay, (in the Aisen region) and are led in by speedboats your Puyuhuapi experience is a very special one. Relaxation is everything here, be it in the wonderfully hot natural pools, in front of the roaring log fire, or during a treatment in the spa, you cannot help but come away feeling rejuvenated and pampered. The best of the 33 rooms have uninterrupted views of the bay and all are comfortable and light with interiors made from local wood. Despite the isolated location, heating and hot water are prolific and entirely natural, powered by the same volcanic springs which gush into the indoor and outdoor thermal pools. All that fresh air makes for a big appetite and this is well catered for in the waterfront restaurant serving wonderful regional seafood washed down by prestigious Chilean wines.



Chiloe Island

Lying just off shore from Puerto Montt this is an island with great tradition and famous for the genuine charm and hospitality of its inhabitants, the chilotes. This is a unique destination where visitors can find colourful "Palafitos" (houses on stilts), stunning scenery and centuries-old wooden churches; 16 of which have the status of a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.



Sample Itinerary

CHILOE AND ITS CHURCHES

03 DAYS / 02 NIGHTS

Day 1: PUERTO VARAS or PUERTO MONTT-CHILOÉ ISLAND-CHACAO-ANCUD

Morning departure from Puerto Montt or Puerto Varas, towards Chiloé. Arrival to this beautiful island, visiting the villages of Chacao and Ancud, San Antonio Fort, Arena Gruesa Beach and

Suggested Hotels



Refugia

Refugia is an architectural project unique in its category that respects the environment, landscape and the "chilote" culture, only 18 km from Castro. The hotel offers its guests a unique and unforgettable experience, to discover the power of nature and identity of Chiloé. The hotel is warm and inviting, full of details, offering a wide variety of outdoor activities with expert guides; excursions such as sailing, horseback riding, biking, kayaking and trekking as well as the chance to go to remote locations and meet different cultures. This experience is also reflected in its cuisine based on local products, bought especially from small farmers in the area



Parque Quilquico

The hotel is located in the Chiloé island, at 16 km from Castro and within a 10 hectare park, on a plateau in the Peninsula against Rilán Pullao wetland, along the Dalcahue Canal and with a beautiful view of the Quinchao Island. It is the perfect location for those wishing to delve into the rich culture of the island.

The hotel is for those who enjoy the luxury of the authentic, appreciating the grain of the wood present throughout the hotel, the natural colours of the fabrics and fibres that decorate the spaces.

Suggested Excursions

ANCUD CITY TOUR

Departure from the hotel to visit the city Ancud, getting to know historical places such as San Antonio Fort, the Blue Museum. The market and the area of Arena Gruesa. Return to the Hotel.

DALCAHUE AND CASTRO, MARVELS OF CHILOÉ

Departure from the hotel in Ancud headed for Castro, to do an attractive tour around the city, knowing its famous houses on stilts, crafts market, and museum. Then, visit to the church of Tey, which was moved from its original location using an ancient process called "Minga a de Tiradura". A Minga is an exceptional community work in which long beams are placed under a house, then the house's foundations are cut, and the beams are rolled over small trunks pulled by oxen. Then, arrival to the village of Dalcahue, distinctive by its shipyards and the church, which was declared World Heritage by UNESCO. Dalcahue has a small but attractive museum, which is a meeting point for craftsmen who gather every Sunday and sell their work. Return to Castro.

Day 2: ANCUD-DALCAHUE-CASTRO-CHONCHI-VILLIPULLI-ANCUD

Full day excursion visiting the most famous churches of Chiloé. These national monuments were declared World Heritage Site by UNESCO, they are unique in their wooden construction and are located in typical small "Chilote" villages, where traditional rural life is the rule. Visit to the churches of Dalcahue, Achao, Quinchao, Castro, Ancud, Nercón, Chonchi and Villipulli.

Day 3: ANCUD-CHILOÉ- PUERTO MONTT or PUERTO VARAS

Transfer at the agreed time to Puerto Montt or Puerto Varas.

Pucon

Soft adventure in the Chilean Lake District

If you are looking for a more active holiday why not head to the north of the Lake District region and base yourself in Pucon – ideal for family holidays. Located on the southeastern shore of Lago Villarica, 26 km from the town of Villarica, it offers opportunity for white water rafting, zip lining, horse riding, mountain biking, winter sports, fishing and of course just the opportunity to relax in very picturesque surroundings. The black sand beach is also popular for swimming and water sports in season.

Pucon can be reached either by flying from Santiago to Temuco (just north of Villarica) or from Puerto Montt. A popular choice is to fly into Puerto Montt and then self-drive to Pucon (approximately five hours easy and picturesque driving) so that you have the flexibility of your own transport whilst in the area.



Suggested Hotels



Antumalal

Situated 2 km outside Pucon and set in over 5 hectares of landscaped gardens with its own private beach and dock.

The hotel's modern style is combined with cosy comfort and personalised service. Facilities include a heated outdoor swimming pool and tennis court. A stay at the hotel guarantees access to the Antumaco Spa, constructed in magnificent surroundings and sculpted from natural rock. Each of the 15 rooms has a view of either Lake Villarica or the gardens. The hotel's guides can arrange a host of excursions on foot, by boat or on horseback for you.



Villarica Park Lake

Positioned on the shores of the unspoilt Lake Villarica with a stunning backdrop provided by the Villarica volcano, this luxurious hotel offers a comfortable base to explore the area from. There is an excellent restaurant with wonderful views over the lake, both an indoor and outdoor pool, plus a spa and gym.



Hotel & Cabanas Monte Verde

Monte Verde is a beautifully coordinated complex offering you 16 cabins with the capacity of two to eight guests each, all come with complete kitchen. We also have a beautiful small hotel, with six rooms for two or three guests each. The Apart Hotel consist of seven apartments in a three story building. The top floor is dedicated to one special apartment.



Hacienda Hotel Vira Vira

Set in a marvellous native park and surrounded by stunning volcanoes (some active and some asleep) and right along the shores of the peaceful Liucura river.

Every day you will meet around the cosy fireplace or at the fruit bar with our excursion manager – who has a passion for the wildlife and fauna around Pucón – to discuss and arrange your next day activities or excursion. Pucón simply offers the best in adventure – be it to explore the many untouched natural parks by horse, to climb with our experienced guide on top of the Volcano, to fight the lively water with your kayak or enjoy a fun day river rafting in the Trancura river – it will always be a fun and unforgettable experience.

Once back from your excursion, you will be served a delicious lunch or dinner in our Gourmet Restaurant. Every day our Chef will choose the freshest products from our own farm to carefully design your daily menu. If you have your favourite dish – let us know and we will gladly prepare it for you. After dinner, enjoy a drink at our bar or around the “fogon” (an open fire in a large metal basin) and exchange your day's experience with your fellow guests or our guides.

The “Elegance of Adventure” stands for personal hospitality coupled with unforgettable adventures and excursions. Our Hacienda Hotel offers a wealth of different adventures and excursions tailored to your specific interests. Every day you will meet with our excursion manager to discuss and set your next day activities. Some of our favourite activities include horse trekking in the Cordilleras, hiking in one of the many surrounding Natural Parks, skiing in winter or simply to spend a leisurely day sailing on the Lake Villarica.

Active Experiences in the Lake District Area

JETBOAT THROUGH NEGRO RIVER

HALF DAY EXCURSION

We depart from our hotel in Peulla. Our adventure begins here, where the 4x4 vehicle will drive us to the Peulla River, to board a Jet Boat specially designed for navigating in shallow Rivers like the Negro River. It's water is crystal-clear, so the river bottom can be seen at all times and the surrounding hills and forests mirror in the water. Along the way, we will be able to observe the dense vegetation and a variety of wild animals such as ducks, cormorants, otters, southern river otters (huillines), or perhaps even condors flying above our heads. We will have time to take pictures. After finishing the activity we will return to our hotel in Peulla.

CANOPY IN PEULLA

HALF DAY EXCURSION

We depart from our hotel in Peulla. Once each participant is fully equipped with all the necessary security equipment, our adrenaline filled adventure will start. Canopy has been designed for people who love adventure activities and for those who like to be in touch with nature, sliding among evergreen trees and enjoying nature from a different angle. This 800 metre long course reaches heights of up to 15 m within a dense evergreen forest of Coigüe trees, next to Velo de la Novia (Bridal Veil) waterfall. After finishing the activity we will return to our hotel in Peulla.

BIKING THROUGH THE LLANQUIHUE LAKE

HALF DAY EXCURSION

We depart from our hotel in Puerto Varas for a trip that will take us over antique roads between the towns of Puerto Varas, Llanquihue and Frutillar. We will bike along the waterside and see some old houses, lonely beaches and always will have an amazing view of the Osorno, Calbuco and the Monte Tronador Volcanoes. The total trip distance is 30 km on a mix of paved and dust roads, to get to Frutillar and with uphill and downhill parts between Llanquihue and Frutillar. Once in Frutillar, we will visit the Teatro del Lago and Colonization Museum, to know some of the history and culture of this town before we return to our hotel in Puerto Varas by vehicle.

LOW RAFTING AT TRANCURA RIVER

HALF DAY EXCURSION

Departure from our hotel in Pucon, heading to Trancura River. Here we will be prepared to begin the exciting activity of rafting, which is suitable for children, youth and adults, as the difficulty of the rapids to descend is category III. We will descend about 10 km across areas of the river known as 'El Puente', 'El Pescador', 'Las Juntas' and After enjoying this fun and safe sport, we will return to our hotel in Pucon.

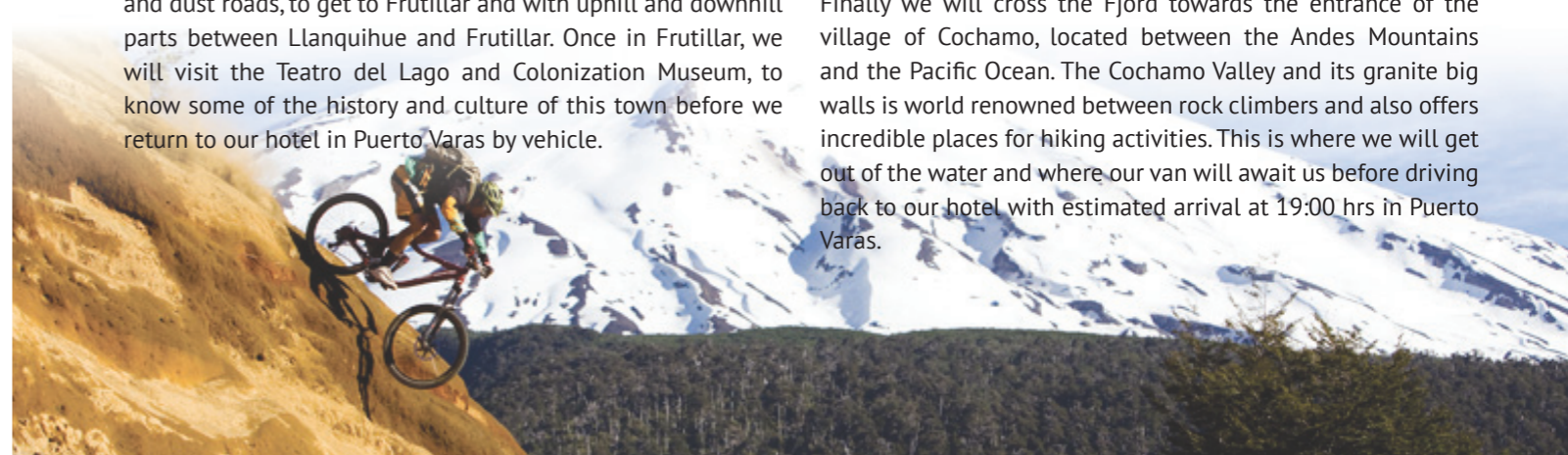
SEA KAYAK AT RELONCAVÍ ESTUARY

FULL DAY EXCURSION

We depart from our hotel at 08:30 in Puerto Varas and hop in the van for a scenic 40 minutes' drive along Lake Llanquihue to the white water rafting base in Ensenada. This is where we will be able to choose between single or tandem expedition sea kayaks and pick up our gear for the day. After another 30 minutes drive we will arrive at the northernmost fjord of Patagonia, known as the Reloncaví Fjord at the Ralún Bay.

According to the climatic conditions (tide and wind) different routes are suggested to ensure maximum safety at all times. We will kayak along the first peninsula where we arrive in a small cove with green meadows leading towards the fjord; this is where we stop for lunch. Mrs. Yolanda will await us in her farm to enjoy a “mate” (Patagonian herbal tea) around the wood stove. Lunch is served while the conversation promises to be interesting as this family has been living here for 4 generations. Back in the kayaks is time to continue southwards among the beautiful landscape of the Alerce Andino National Park but always facing the volcanoes. We will have the chance to see sea lions and dolphins (local species are smaller than the average ones we find in other places of the world) and a rich variety of birds that can go from pelicans to cormorants and even penguins.

Finally we will cross the Fjord towards the entrance of the village of Cochamo, located between the Andes Mountains and the Pacific Ocean. The Cochamo Valley and its granite big walls is world renowned between rock climbers and also offers incredible places for hiking activities. This is where we will get out of the water and where our van will await us before driving back to our hotel with estimated arrival at 19:00 hrs in Puerto Varas.



Santiago

Chile's Capital City

Snow-covered Andean peaks provide the backdrop to Santiago – South America's fifth largest city and the capital of Chile. A modern, cosmopolitan and safe metropolis but with many parks and hilltop sanctuary to escape the chaos. You can wander the historic centre downtown to visit museums and churches, the impressive Government building and the cathedral. The centre of the old city lies between the Mapocho River and the Avenida O'Higgins, which is usually known as the Alameda. This is the main east-west avenue through the city. We recommend that you base yourself in the barrios (neighbourhoods) of Las Condes or Providencia where you will find most of the shops and restaurants. You may also enjoy a wander around the arty Bellavista district from where the cable car ascends to the summit of San Cristobal Hill affording fantastic views over the city to the Andes.

Santiago also offers easy access to the nearby wine valleys, ski resorts and the coast area. In the 5 wine valleys in the central area (Aconcagua, Casablanca, Maipo, Colchagua and Cachapoal), you may find a variety of grapes and vineyards and excellent tourist facilities with a variety of hotels and restaurants. Along the Pacific coast and only 90 minutes from Santiago, the two amazing cities Viña del Mar and Valparaiso can be visited. Both are very different from each other but very close geographically. Valparaiso is a historic harbour city declared Cultural Heritage Site by the UNESCO. Viña del Mar is known as the garden city and a famous resort among Chileans. Ski resorts can be found between one to three hours by car from Santiago, each of them waits for you with world-class slopes.

Suggested Hotels



Marriott Santiago

The Santiago Marriott is located in an important business district of Las Condes, a short walk from Los Leones Golf Club and just 300 m from the Parque Arauco mall. The Hotel, which occupies one of the tallest buildings in Santiago, offers 5 star rooms with LCD TV and mountain views, 3 restaurants and an outdoor pool. Enjoy fine dining and the best Chilean wine every day. Choose from a formal dinner in the Latin Grill or a casual dinner with live music in the Akun Lounge.

You may also wish to consider the Courtyard Hotel by Marriott located in the same area.



Hotel Boutique Bidasoa

Located in the exclusive neighbourhood of Vitacura, in front of the Museum of Fashion and close to the Bicentennial Park, Parque Arauco shopping centre this is a popular family run hotel. Offering a garden, outdoor terrace and swimming pool, access to free wi-fi and free parking, it also committed to the environment by incorporating more sustainable and ecological solutions every day that favour recycling and conscious care of the surroundings and green areas.



Noi Vitacura

Set within a sleek landmark building, Hotel Noi Vitacura merges stunning modern architecture, contemporary luxury and vibrant urban energy with incomparable views of the Andes Mountains. Find the best of Santiago's exclusive Vitacura neighbourhood, famous for the fashionable clothing boutiques and furniture stores of the Calle Alonso de Córdova shopping thoroughfare, just steps away. And look out for deals if you opt to stay at the other superb Noi properties located in the Atacama Desert, the Colchagua Valley, Sierra Nevada in the Andes, and Puerto Natales in Patagonia.



Plaza El Bosque Ebro

Located within the financial centre of Avenida El Bosque, just a short distance from Metro station Tobalaba, within walking distance of the Costanera Shopping Centre, and in the heart of Santiago's important commercial and gastronomic area, Plaza El Bosque Ebro is a great choice for a business or holiday stay. Its amenities includes two restaurants, two bars, two terraces, a Business Centre, gym and Spa.

Also consider Plaza El Bosque San Sebastian and Plaza El Bosque Nueva Las Condes.

HOTEL TORRE MAYOR

Providencia

Torremayor Providencia

Opened in late 2014, and located only a few steps from Los Leones Metro station the hotel Torremayor Providencia has 91 rooms and an outdoor panoramic swimming pool on the top level. All this services will provide the visitor with an unforgettable stay.



Atton El Bosque

Opened in 2007, the Atton El Bosque is the perfect choice for those on business or the most casual of travellers. Located within the business epicentre of Santiago de Chile, walking distance from the El Golf barrio, and close to the Tobalaba subway station, any place within Santiago is at your fingertips while staying at the hotel. Sister hotels Atton Las Condes and Atton Vitacura are also very popular and in great locations.



W Santiago

Set against the panoramic backdrop of the snow-capped Andes, W Santiago reinvents style and sophistication in the city's most fashionable and trendsetting district, El Golf, a fascinating world of urban innovation set amid cobblestone streets and glitzy skyscrapers. Guests can enjoy sizzling cuisine in the hotel's restaurants, red-hot nightlife at its bar, cosy conversations in the lounges, relax or work out at the Wellness Club, enjoy the rooftop swimming pool, and rest in one of its opulent suites. Follow your dreams and let the Whatever / Whenever® service take care of all your fantasies, state-of-the-art entertainment, luxury and relaxation; at W, everything is possible.



Lastarria Boutique

This stunning residence, built in 1927 and discovered in the heart of Santiago's most bohemian borough, has been renovated and converted into a superb boutique Hotel with unrivalled personal service to ensure guests stay in a genuine home. Situated in an area brimming with history and surrounded by the best museums, galleries, trendy shops, antique stores, cinemas, theatres and innovative restaurants, this boutique Hotel offers guests the chance to discover the tremendous diversity of the city at its doorstep. Lastarria Boutique Hotel is the newest offer for guests seeking premium accommodation in Santiago de Chile. Its principal characteristics are the refined architecture with which this historic house was originally built, its garden with an outdoor swimming pool, spacious bedrooms and private areas that help make guests feel very much at home. The Lastarria Boutique Hotel is committed to offering a personalized and friendly service that ensures its guests to experience an unforgettable stay within the utmost comfort.

Other hotels that we recommend are Marina Las Condes, Director El Golf, and The Aubrey. Also ask about the Holiday Inn and Hilton Garden Inn hotels located at the airport... ideal for one night stays especially for late arrivals or early departures. Or if you are visiting Santiago with a small family or for an extended period you may wish to consider an Aparthotel such as Times Suites.

	SUMMER	AUTUMN	WINTER	SPRING
	Jan / Feb / Mar	Apr / May	Jun / Jul / Aug	Sep / Oct / Nov / Dec
NIGHT	11 °C (52 °F)	6 °C (43 °F)	3 °C (38 °F)	8 °C (46 °F)
DAY	28 °C (83 °F)	20 °C (68 °F)	15 °C (59 °F)	23 °C (74 °F)

Day Excursions

CITY TOUR SANTIAGO & SANTA LUCIA HILL

HALF DAY EXCURSION

Departure from our hotel in Santiago to begin our journey towards the city centre, where we will know its main attractions. First, we will visit the Santa Lucia Hill, where the city of Santiago was founded in 1541.

Then we will continue to the Plaza de Armas, where we can see the Cathedral of Santiago, the Municipality, the Post Office Building and National History Museum. Our journey will continue along the Government Palace and where we will have the opportunity to walk through some of the most traditional streets and neighbourhoods.

The experience continues uptown along the Costanera Highway until reaching the elegant Vitacura neighbourhood and the Alonso de Córdova Avenue, arriving at the FABA handicraft shop, specialised in lapis lazuli jewellery, a semi-precious stone found only in Chile and Afghanistan. We will be able to enjoy a 'Pisco Sour' drink while appreciating beautiful pieces of lapis lazuli. Our tour continues with a transfer to our hotel in Santiago.

CULINARY TOUR AT MERCADO CENTRAL

HALF DAY EXCURSION

Departure from our hotel in Santiago to the Central Market, highlighted even by 'National Geographic' as one of the 10 best food markets worldwide. In the front of the Market we will receive an introduction to the gastronomic elements to be found in this important historic centre of Santiago. Thus we will have a tour and select the elements to use and prepare for our lunch. Finally, we will arrive at El Galeon Restaurant, where we will start an interactive meal with the chef. After enjoying this delicious lunch, we will return to our hotel in Santiago.

MAIPO VALLEY WINE ROUTE

FULL DAY EXCURSION

Departure from our hotel in Santiago towards the Maipo Valley. This is an ideal tour to learn the essence about the history and magic of wine, through green landscapes and imposing mountains of the valley. Here we will visit two of its main vineyards, all prestigious and recognized such as Viña Cousiño Macul, Viña Undurraga or Viña Concha y Toro. Thus, we will enjoy tasting the best wines from Maipo Valley and different grape varieties, aromas and flavours. Moreover, in both visits we will learn about the wine making process, walk around the vineyards, production plants, wine cellars and see the final product already bottled. In the middle of the visits we will also taste typical Chilean lunch from Maipo region. Finally, during the afternoon we will return to our hotel in Santiago.

VALLE NEVADO

HALF DAY EXCURSION

Departure from our hotel in Santiago to get into the Andes Mountain Range. We will take the road to Valle Nevado, where the most important ski centres of this area are located. During our trip we will find endemic vegetation and small flows of water and also enjoy the breathtaking view of the Andes Mountain Range.

Arriving at the destination we will visit Valle Nevado, the largest and most modern ski resort in the southern hemisphere. Later, our tour continues to Farellones, the oldest mountain town of Chile located in the basin of the Mapocho, from where we will begin our return to our hotel in Santiago.

CITY TOUR VIÑA DEL MAR & VALPARAÍSO

FULL DAY EXCURSION

Departure from our hotel in Santiago towards the Pacific Coast passing through the valleys of Casablanca and Curacaví. Our first visit will begin in Viña del Mar, also known as the "Garden City" due to its great amount of parks and well-kept gardens. We will make a stop to visit the beautiful park Quinta Vergara, the Carrasco Palace and meet face to face with a Moai brought from Easter Island. Following this, our tour will continue along the most important ocean front of the central coast, to later reach the famous clock of flowers of the city.

Later, we will arrive to Valparaíso, declared World Heritage Site by the UNESCO, filled with colourful houses among the hills, parks and diverse National Monuments. One of its attractions is the Sotomayor Square, an important civic square located very close to the principal port of Chile. Lastly, at this point, we will navigate through this port bay, where the view of Valparaíso is most appreciated. During the afternoon, we will return to our hotel in Santiago.

TREKKING LA CAMPANA NATIONAL PARK

FULL DAY EXCURSION

Departure from Santiago, towards Aconcagua Valley. On the way, with good weather conditions and no clouds, it is possible to see the top of Aconcagua, the highest mountain in South America that almost reaches 7,000 ft. Within it, there is a smaller valley in which the imposing La Campana Mountain guards a natural sanctuary; this place is also known as "Palmas de Ocoa". At the foot of the mountain is La Campana National Park, which has three micro climates, a "Chilean Palm" reserve, and a beautiful assortment of flora and fauna. This was studied by Charles Darwin in his visit to Chile. This park has many trails to choose from, with different degrees of difficulty and sights. On the way, it is possible to see many different species of birds such as woodpeckers, hummingbirds, shiny cowbirds, eagles, and animals such as foxes, degus, lizards, butterflies, and

harmless snakes, and much more... In the afternoon, return to the hotel in Santiago.

RAFTING IN THE MAIPO RIVER

FULL DAY EXCURSION

Depart Santiago in the morning and head towards the Maipo Valley, framed by the majestic Andes. Arrival at the Maipo Canyon, where experienced guides will provide you with basic information and equipment for this adventure, that consists of a helmet, wetsuit, paddles, and life jacket, and a small rafting introduction explaining the main techniques before getting on the rafts. The rapids in Maipo River are rated class III in winter and class IV in summer. The rafting adventure lasts for approximately one hour. After this exciting excursion, the tour continues to Las Animas cascade, to enjoy a well-deserved lunch. Then it is leisure time to swim in the pool in summer, or to enjoy the sauna in the winter. In the afternoon return to your hotel in Santiago.

CHILEAN ARTS AND MUSEUMS

HALF DAY EXCURSION

Departure from our hotel in Santiago to the Pre-Columbian Art Museum, which owns approximately 3,000 pieces of art, mainly from Inca and Maya culture and from the different regions of Chile. Then, through the Parque Forestal we will arrive at the Bellas Artes Museum, where its exhibition includes a sample of Chilean paintings ranging from colonial to contemporary times. Our tour will continue through the bohemian Bellavista neighbourhood, full of theatres, bars, art galleries, pubs, restaurants and lapis lazuli handicraft workshops. Here we will visit La Chascona, which was one of the houses of the poet Pablo Neruda, and is now a museum and a National Monument. In this house, which evokes a boat, there are paintings of personal friends of the poet, such as Siqueiros and Diego Rivera. Finally, we will return to our hotel in Santiago.

HORSEBACK RIDING TO HANGING VENTISQUERO EL MORADO WITH BARBECUE

FULL DAY EXCURSION

Depart from Santiago to Cajon del Arenas, east of El Morado National Park. The Park is a protected area in the heart of the Andes, includes Río Morales and its adjacent mountains emphasizing El Morado mountain, with an altitude of 5,060 m (16,596 ft). When we get to Cajón del Arenas, we will start a beautiful horse ride for about 2 hours and 30 minutes. During this trip we will be able to appreciate the impressive lake where the ancient glacier Colgante Del Morado lies. After the ride, we will enjoy a delicious Chilean barbecue, surrounded by spectacular mountains. In the afternoon we will return to Santiago.

SKIING

During the months June to September the ski resorts nestling in the Andes are easily accessible from Santiago, and offer the largest number of runs in the southern hemisphere – six principle resorts offer a combined total of over 100 pistes with difficulty levels catering from novices to expert adrenalin junkies. Valle Nevado and Portillo are the most renowned. The spectacular views and superb standard of snow make Chile an increasingly popular destination for ski aficionados. We can arrange stays in resort hotels for any duration complete with equipment hire and lessons if required. Day excursions from Santiago to Portillo and Valle Nevado are also available outside of the ski season. Take a look at our web site for further information or contact any of our agents.

FAMILY CORNER

Hotels with Swimming Pools :

Outdoor : Grand Hyatt, Marriott, Atton Las Condes, Hotel Noi
Indoor : Marina Las Condes, Atton Vitacura, Plaza El Bosque Ebro, Hotel Noi

Suggested activities :

Fantasiland : An amusement park located in a corner of the O'Higgins Park in Santiago, Chile with a wide variety of fun for all the family. www.fantasilandia.cl

Mirador Interactive Museum : Engaging interactive and audio visual museum with attractions for children of all ages (and adults!). <http://www.mimcl/>

Buin Zoo : A private zoo that was originally a private farm, owned by a local veterinarian. People started bringing injured wild animals and exotic pets to the farm for rehabilitation. Many of the animals could not be returned to the wild after they recovered and became permanent residents at what would eventually become the largest zoo in Chile, and one of the most popular attractions in the area.

Parque Arauco : Many films will be in English with Spanish subtitles. It is worth checking before buying your tickets though. There is a wide selection of restaurants and fast food outlets. The nearby Parque Arcauno has a many kids climbing frames and park activities, and within the park you will find Kidzania with childrens activities, a bouldering gym, a boxing gym, and a good range of eateries.

<http://www.parquearauco.cl/>

<http://santiago.kidzania.com/en-cl>

Sports Mall : A shopping mall focusing on sports clothing and equipment outlets, but it also features a climbing wall, surfing training area, dry ice rink, skateboarding, and various other active offerings including play areas for small children. There's a mini marina with some nice boats on show too!

Viña del Mar & Valparaíso

Along the Pacific coast and only 90 minutes from Santiago, the two amazing cities Viña del Mar and Valparaíso can be visited. Both are very different from each other but very close geographically. Valparaíso is a historic harbour city declared Cultural Heritage Site by the UNESCO. Viña del Mar is known as the garden city and a famous resort among Chileans.

Suggested Hotels



Sheraton Miramar Hotel

Rising above the sea by Caleta Abarca Beach, the five-star international hotel, situated at the main entrance to Viña del Mar; boasts views of Valparaíso Bay and the azure waters of the Pacific Ocean. A short 10 minute walk will bring you straight to Viña's famous casino, offering year-round attractions. Spend time with your family in the outdoor swimming pool, relax in the hot tub or stretch out in the Sheraton Fitness or gather for international and seafood specialties at one of restaurants and lounge.



Hotel San Martín

As soon as you arrive you are embraced by the elegant yet warm atmosphere of the classic hotel San Martín. Hotel San Martín de Viña del Mar is located on Avenida San Martín, just a few steps away from the beaches and the casino, surrounded by restaurants and in the heart of the nightlife. Although 50 years old it has been completely renovated, and is part of the memory and identity of Viña del Mar.



Palacio Astoreca

After three years of remodelling this majestic Victorian mansion from the 1920s finally opened its doors in 2012. The hotel is located in the heart of the hill "Cerro Alegre", in front of the Yugoslavo pedestrian walk, with an unique view over the bay and the hills of Valparaíso. The hotel has an unique restaurant named "Alegre" whose Spanish chef, the young and talented Sergio Barroso, previously worked in recognised European restaurants like the prestigious El Bulli Ferran Adrià.

CHILEAN CENTRAL COAST

FULL DAY EXCURSION

Departure is from our hotel in Santiago (or Valparaíso or Viña del Mar) towards the Pacific Ocean. We will visit the following beaches of the central coasts: Papudo, Zapallar, Cachagua and Maitencillo. Each one of these beaches enchants the visitor with its unique style, with its fishing villages that provide fresh and delicious seafood, plus its beautiful houses that blend different architecture styles and show how the families live in the area. Also, these beaches have fairly extensive rock areas, which combined with pine forests contrast with the sand washed by the sea.

After visiting these four beaches, we will have some time to explore the place or even take a short class of surfing at Playa El Abanico, Maitencillo. After this, return to our hotel.

ISLA NEGRA, PABLO NERUDA'S HOME

FULL DAY EXCURSION

We depart from our hotel in Santiago (or Valparaíso or Viña del Mar) towards the beach community of Isla Negra. This place of dark sands, eucalyptus and pine trees, once captivated poet Pablo Neruda; winner of the Literature Nobel prize in the year 1971. Here he built a beautiful house that today is open to the public as a museum.

Pablo Neruda decorated each corner of the house with sculptures, paintings, and books all related to the sea. We enjoy some time at our leisure to see the house and garden. After touring the museum house and garden, we will visit the beach community of Algarrobo and the coastline. Next, we will continue to the Casablanca Valley to visit one of its vineyards. Here we will get a closer look at the wine making process and have a taste of its main wine. Finally, we return to our hotel in Santiago.

Wine Valleys



Suggested Hotels



Matetic Vineyard

The Matetic Vineyard is located in the Rosario Valley, between the towns of Casablanca and San Antonio. Currently, Matetic has approximately 170 hectares of vineyard plantation with a biodynamic agricultural management to produce 100% organic and natural grapes. Built in the early 20th century and completely restored in 2004, La Casona represents the traditional Chilean home of the great country estates of the time. The boutique hotel offers personalized services in a privileged location, where guests can experience the wines and terrain that have brought its international fame.



Hotel Santa Cruz

Located opposite the town square of Santa Cruz, the hotel includes in its attractive colonial style building the noble spirit, tradition and history of past generations. From its entrance, hotel Santa Cruz invites to a different experience; nothing has been left to chance. All details of its architecture and decoration are there to remember a part of history. Its facilities are designed to offer comfort and provide the best service to its guests, who can enjoy an atmosphere of relaxation, typical of the Chilean countryside. From here you can visit the most recognized and award winning vineyards of Chile, great museums, villages full of tradition and outdoor activities.

The Chilean green and fertile wine valleys are situated at the foot of the Andes in the Central Valley. Protected by natural barriers and in a favourable Mediterranean climate influenced by the Pacific Ocean, the grapes grow in perfect conditions to develop world-class Chilean wines.

In the 5 wine valleys of the central area, a diversity of grapes and vineyards can be found, besides one of a kind touristic facilities, with a variety of hotels and restaurants.

Distances from Santiago to:

Aconcagua Valley:
56 miles / 90 km (1 hour by car)

Casablanca Valley:
58 miles / 92 km
(less than 1 hour by car)

Maipo Valley:
19 miles / 30 km
(less than 1 hour by car)

Cachapoal Valley:
56 miles / 90 km (1 hour by car)

Colchagua Valley:
116 miles / 187 km (3 hours by car)

The wineries can be visited all year round, especially during March and April when visitors can enjoy the Wine Harvesting Festival. Come for the day and learn the finer pints of creating a perfect barrel.



Suggested Itinerary

INTRODUCTION TO CHILEAN WINES – SANTIAGO AND THE CENTRAL VALLEY

07 Days / 06 Nights

Day 1: Reception at Santiago Airport and transfer to your hotel.

Day 2: Buffet breakfast at the hotel. In the morning enjoy a city tour of Santiago. Start off by visiting Santa Lucía Hill, where the Spanish conquistador Pedro de Valdivia founded the city on February 12th 1541. From here, you will be taken to the La Moneda Palace, nowadays the neoclassical style government palace, but originally constructed to house the Mint of the Spanish Crown during the 18th century. A few blocks away, walk along Paseo Ahumada until reaching Plaza de Armas (The Main Square). This bustling spot houses the oldest buildings of the capital. A little further on, cross the Mapocho River and head straight towards the Bellavista neighbourhood - a lively location, core of the night and artistic life where pubs, cultural centres and international gastronomy can be found. Afternoon at leisure. Overnight at the hotel in Santiago

Day 3: Buffet breakfast at the hotel. Departure from Santiago towards the Maipo Valley. Prestigious and renowned wineries such as Cousiño Macul, Undurraga and Concha y Toro are to be found in this valley. We will visit Aquitania, a boutique winery at the foot of Andes Mountain and this winery is orientated to produce wines of high quality in limited amounts. Take a small break to recover strength while enjoying the beauty and serenity of the valley. We will then travel towards another winery to observe the process of the wine under another perspective. We will visit Concha y Toro Winery which has achieved international recognition mainly by its brands Casillero del Diablo and Don Melchor. Lunch is Included at Manso Toro. In the afternoon, return to the hotel in Santiago.

Day 4: Depart from your hotel in Santiago heading south towards the Colchagua Valley, one of the most fertile valleys in Chile dedicated mostly to fruit and wine production. In Santa Cruz, we will visit one of the several vineyards of this valley to learn about the wine production process, to see the wine cellars and finally we will enjoy a wine tasting to experience the final product. Arrive at the Santa Cruz hotel where a glass of wine will be waiting for our welcome drink. Afternoon at leisure. Overnight at Santa Cruz Hotel.

Day 5: Buffet breakfast in the restaurant of the hotel. Afterwards we will visit the Colchagua Museum, the largest private and world renowned museum in Latin America that offers visitors a truly unique experience with a visually and highly informative exhibition about Chilean and South American history. The museum exhibits collections of archaeology and pre-Columbian art of Chile, Peru and Colombia, as well as American history since Conquest (Conquista) until the end of the XIX century. The Museum of Colchagua is an excellent choice for travelers that want to learn more about Chilean and South American history. Afternoon at leisure. Overnight at the Santa Cruz Hotel.

Day 6: Buffet breakfast at the restaurant of the hotel and morning at leisure. In the afternoon we depart to another Santa Cruz winery located 25 km away from Santa Cruz and near Lolol. We will visit the facilities and taste their wine, called Chaman. Afterwards, ride on a cable car to visit the indigenous village where the Aymara, Rapa Nui and Mapuche cultures have been recreated. Return to the hotel in preparation for the return journey to Santiago. Overnight in Santiago.

Day 7: Buffet breakfast at the hotel. At the agreed time, transfer to Santiago airport for your departure flight.

Wine Facts

The main Chilean wine regions are (from North to South):

- Coquimbo (Elqui, Limari, Choapa)
- Aconcagua (Aconcagua, Casablanca, San Antonio)
- Central Valley (Maipo, Cachapoal, Curicó, Maule)
- Southern (Itata, Bio-Bio, Malleco)

A mélange of French and Spanish varietals are grown in Chile (over 20) including: Cabernet Sauvignon, Zinfandel, Pinot Noir, Sauvignon Blanc, Riesling, and Pedro Ximénez!

Although known for growing Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot, Carménère is considered to be the country's signature grape. Indigenous to Bordeaux, it grows exceptionally well in Chile due to the long growing season.

Suggested Hotels



Hanga Roa Eco Village & Spa

A luxury hotel set on the main coastal road of Easter Island with a privileged view of the ocean, only a few blocks away from downtown. The Poerava and Kaloa restaurants were conceived for the enjoyment of a great fusion between the native Rapa Nui cuisine and international recipes, resulting in culinary delicacies. A spa and pool make Hangaroa Eco Village & Spa a perfect place to rest.



Iorana

This hotel has a history of over 25 years serving passengers worldwide. It has a privileged location on the outskirts of the town of Hanga Roa, which also allows its visitors to admire wonderful sunsets from anywhere in the hotel. With a total of 52 rooms, the hotel offers a pleasant atmosphere, ideal to relax and recharge at any time of year.



Otai

The name of the hotel "Otai" means "Waterfront" in the Rapa Nui language. As its name suggests, the hotel is only steps away from the waterfront and at the same time, in the heart of the village of Hanga Roa, close to all major services. Surrounded by beautiful gardens along with indigenous flora of Rapa Nui, this comfortable and cosy hotel has all the comfort needed for a pleasant stay at Easter Island. It has a restaurant specialising in Polynesian food and international cuisine, bar and pool.



Taha Tai

The hotel is located just five minutes from the centre of Hanga Roa town. It was built by the sea, taking the Rapa Nui words Taha Tai meaning "by the sea" as its name. With an outdoor pool, bar and restaurant overlooking the sea, Taha Tai Hotel offers everything that a guest would need to make a visit to Rapa Nui an unforgettable journey in a mythical setting, full of history and archaeology.



Vai Moana

Vai Moana in Rapa Nui language means Blue Sea and the hotel was so named in honor of the omnipresent ocean surrounding the island which inspires much of their culture. Vai Moana Centre is the first hotel on the island and throughout America that has been certified within the network of biosphere hotels by RTI (Responsible Tourism Institute, associated with the UNESCO) in recognition to the effort of responsible work along with the natural and cultural environment. Facilities include a spacious garden setting with traditional architectural elements in Tahai, just five minutes from downtown Hanga Roa and Ceremonial Tahai Archaeological Complex.



Easter Island

Two million years ago deep geological changes and volcanic eruptions created remote Easter Island, a tiny pinprick in the great Pacific Ocean, and a mound of consolidated lava and ash from the three submarine volcanoes. The natives call their Island "Rapa Nui" or "Te Pito O Te Henua" – The Navel of the Earth. Declared a National Park and Historic Monument in 1935 and a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1999, in Chile the Island is called Isla de Pascua. A fascinating outdoor museum of mysterious ancient people the island is a perfect triangle shaped piece of land, at the centre of the Pacific Ocean about 3,800 km west from Santiago (about a 5 hour flight). The island was first settled by Polynesians in the 4th century who are believed to have lived there undisturbed for well over a thousand years. The island is scattered with imposing stone statues known as Moai, which are large human like figures with oversized heads and are believed to be representations of the indigenous people's ancestors.

Windswept and grassy on one side and lushly vegetated (albeit treeless) on the other side, the main population centre is in the small town of Hanga Roa on the southwest of the island.

Without a doubt, Easter Island is a must to any traveller who wants to know and explore the hidden secrets of this incredible civilization.

Suggested Itinerary

MYSTERIES & TREASURES OF RAPA NUI

05 days / 04 nights

Day 1: HANGA ROA

Arrival to Easter Island. Reception at the Mataverí Airport in Hanga Roa and welcome with flower necklaces. Transfer to the hotel in Hanga Roa. Overnight.

Day 2: HANGA ROA - MOAI'S ROUTE - PLAYA ANAKENA - HANGA ROA

Breakfast at the hotel in Easter Island. In this full day tour throughout the so-called Moai Route, we will visit the Ahu Vaihu, a ceremonial place surrounded by fell down Moais, and the Ahu Akahanga, where the first king of the island was buried. Afterward, we will head to the Rano Raraku Volcano. There, the Easter Island natives carved the giant statues from the volcano's quarry. Here we will testify the different stages in the Moai construction; in this place is located the biggest Moai in the island, still unfinished, with more than 20 m length and 200 tons of weight. After that, we will visit the Ahu Tongariki, the biggest Ahu on the Island which encapsulate 15 Moais. Finally, we will enjoy an expedition to the Te Pito Kura ancient settlement standing out on account of its mystical circular stones, and then, our tour will finish visiting the Anakena Beach where we will enjoy its warm sea waters. In the afternoon, return to the hotel. Overnight.

Day 3: HANGA ROA- VOLCÁN RANO - KAO ORONGO - AHU AKIVI - HANGA ROA

Breakfast at the hotel in Easter Island. Half-day tour to Rano Kao Volcano, place endowed with a large fresh-water lake covered by totora. Perched on the top of the crater is the Ceremonial Centre of Orongo, where every year the Birdman or Tangata Manu ceremony is celebrated, here we will watch more than 100 petroglyphs representing the Make-Make god and the Manutara seabird, among others. We will visit the Ana Kai Tangata cave, a cavern housing a large array of prehistoric paintings where the Easter Island people took refuge during times of war. Finally, we will visit the Ahu Vinapu, where the interesting architectural style reminds us of the Inca's legacy, due to the perfection of the cuts and location of the stones. Return to the hotel. Overnight.

Day 4: HANGA ROA - AHU AKIVI - HANGA ROA

Breakfast at the hotel in Easter Island. Half-day excursion, we will travel to Ahu Akivi, big platform encompassing 7 Moais, the unique Moais facing the sea; the Ana Tepahu Caverns and the quarry of Puna Pau, where the Pukaos, top part of the Moais -Pukao, means "typical hairstyle", were sculpted. Finally, we will visit the Ahu Tahai. Return to the hotel. Overnight.

Day 5: HANGA ROA

Breakfast at the hotel in Easter Island. Transfer to the Mataverí Airport at the agreed time for the departure flight. Farewell with shell necklaces

Easter Island Special

DIVING AT LOS MOTUS

HALF DAY EXCURSION

Departure from our hotel in Easter Island in order to visit the south of the island, towards the ceremonial centre of Orongo. In front of this centre we will see three small portions of land, which added to the largest island, form the Los Motus archipelago. These islets will hold our diving activity, which will result an overwhelming and fascinating experience. Easter Island has a marine topography rich in caves, arches, cliffs and lava platforms - the ideal atmosphere to enjoy a lot of corals and tropical fishes and appreciate the colour and clarity of its waters. Finally, we will return to our hotel at Easter Island.



La Serena & the Elqui Valley

The capital of the 4th region of Coquimbo, La Serena, is the second oldest city in Chile. Founded in 1544 by the Spaniard Juan Bohon, after his death it was re-founded, this time by his successor, Francisco de Aguirre. Located 470 km north of Santiago - a mix of chic seafront and artistic old town - La Serena is probably the best destination to head for in Chile if you are seeking some time on the beach. However for those of you looking for more than seaside relaxation and some fine seafood restaurants, the area has much else to offer.

Famed for having the clearest skies in the southern hemisphere this tranquil area is home to a large number of observatories to which visits can be arranged. Typically over 300 nights a year are suitable for stargazing and sky photography.

One of the most popular attractions of this area is the Elqui Valley - one of the most attractive oases in this part of the northern Chile. There are orchards, orange groves and vineyards. It is also the centre of production for the national drink "pisco" so a trip wouldn't be complete without a visit to one of the nine distilleries and a tasting!

Car hire is recommended for exploring this area at your own leisure, but for those who prefer we can also arrange guided day excursions.

Hotel Options



Club La Serena

Club La Serena Hotel has an extraordinary seaside location on del Mar Avenue. It is only 5 minutes from the downtown, mall and administrative centre. The warmth of our service will make your stay an unforgettable experience. The Hotel has extensive infrastructure, beautiful gardens and ocean views from its rooms.



Mar de Ensueño

Our hotel has a pleasant ideal for rest and relaxation on your holiday focused on families and business executives familiar environment. We are located at the start of Ocean Avenue just m from The Serena Lighthouse, beach front where you can enjoy hiking, bike tours and activities taking place on the waterfront. We are 10 minutes from downtown, 20 minutes from the airport and an hour from Valle de Elqui, connected with the International Paso Aguas Negras. We have 50 rooms and 10 fully equipped cottages.



Playa Campanario

Hotel Campanario is a company with over 20 years of experience. The hotel has a privileged location in the city of La Serena. Our mission is that our passengers feel comfortable and enjoy their stay. So we take care in giving you our best efforts, providing quality and personalized attention. It's situated in a privileged location, just few metres from Avenida del Mar, and the Monumental lighthouse of La Serena. Our hotel is near shopping malls, terminals and airport; as well as cultural and tourist attractions.

Special Product



Elqui Domes

Located 110 km from La Serena city (regional capital, and closer airport LSC) and 580 km from Santiago. Elqui Domes is the only astronomic hotel in the Southern Hemisphere comprises seven 4 person timber cabins in the form of PVC tent geodesic domes. With their two storey plans, the domes feature a living room and bathroom on the lower floor and a double bed on the upper floor complete with a detachable roof. Each dome also has an ample terrace. Other services, such as fridge bar and free tea are also part of what we offer. Barbecues and cutlery are also available. Services are focused on sky wealth:

- Astronomical tours
- Day and night-time horse rides
- Reiki, massages & meditation
- Tarot session



Atacama Desert

Part of Chile's 360,000 km² of desert, the Atacama Desert, may widely be known as the driest place on earth but surrounding the oasis town of San Pedro de Atacama you can witness towering geysers, volcanoes, expansive salt plains that cause optical illusions and hot springs in which to relax after a long day in the desert. Access to San Pedro is via the Calama, a mining town with Chuquicamata, the largest open cast mine in the world, in the hills behind it. The Salar de Atacama is Chile's largest salt flats, covering an area in excess of 3,000 km². Lakes within the Salar are home to flamingos, geese and coots, turning them into popular bird watching sites. On the northern end of the Cordillera de la Sal is the Valle de la Luna (Moon Valley) – an area of eerie sandstone formations. Nearby is the so called Valle de la Muerta (Death Valley) – an extremely barren, hot and dry patch of deserts. And don't miss the Tatio Geysers, located at an altitude of 4,300 m.

Suggested Hotels



HOTEL ALTIPLANICO

Hotel Altiplanico Atacama

Tucked away on the outskirts of San Pedro de Atacama, the Altiplanico faces the impressive Licanbur Colvaco and is built in the style of a traditional adobe Altiplano village. Enjoy the famous Atacama sunsets and relax in the shade of the private terraces and cool off in the swimming pool after a day exploring the world's driest desert in the world. The hotel features minimalist-inspired architecture and its styled with natural fabrics. Rooms come in all shapes and sizes, some with outdoor shower.



tierraatacama
THE SPIRIT OF THE ALTIPLANO

Tierra Atacama Hotel & Spa

This stunning boutique hotel is on the edge of San Pedro de Atacama with amazing desert and volcano views from the attractive rooms, each with outdoor rainforest shower and private terrace. Interior decoration is casually elegant using unique hand-made textiles and crafts to add authentic desert cultural pieces to each room. Spend your days relaxing by the pool or discover the incredible surroundings of the Altiplano with your choice of different excursions accompanied by expert bilingual guides. Finish the day with exceptional Chilean and Andean cuisine and some of Chile's best wines in the restaurant.



Awasi SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA - CHILE

Awasi is the only hotel in South America that offers 100% tailor-made service to suit their guests' needs. Each room has a 4x4 vehicle and a private guide who designs a trip set to the interests and preferences of its guests. As a member of Relais & Chateaux, the restaurant,

which is exclusively for guests of Awasi, offers a daily selection highlighting the local gastronomy, adapting to the guests' requirements, and providing the culinary excellence that characterizes the hotel. The 8 rooms provide excellence in lodging, delivered with its exclusive private Suites. These are built of stone, adobe, wood and thatched roofs, and have spaces of over 60 m², each with a private patio and outside shower.



Poblado de Kimal

Hotel Poblado Kimal is situated in the historical centre of the ancient oasis town of San Pedro de Atacama, on the corner of the main street Caracoles.

In the design of the hotel elements of local architecture like adobe walls and Andean straw thatching over wooden-beam structures are ingeniously and elegantly combined. The 21 charming wood and adobe cabin-like rooms with terraces are distributed amidst the calm of a fruit orchard in an arrangement reminiscent of an ancient settlement – "poblado". Honouring a tradition of respect for the Pacha Mama (Mother Earth) and Inti (Father Sun), solar energy is used for lighting. Every tree has been left in place and wooden pathways allow for the traditional flood irrigation of the land.

La Casa de Don Tomas

Casa Don Tomas

Located in the magical setting of the intriguing archaeological area of San Pedro, the charm of Atacameñan architecture was applied to La Casa de Don Tomás, resulting in a refined inn, cosy and welcoming, where visitors find comfort and quality service in spacious rooms. The hotel's inner dependencies have a living room area, decorated with rustic wood furniture. The outdoor area includes a swimming pool and under peppers trees, a terrace with a wonderful view to the volcano.

Suggested Itinerary

Marvels of the Atacama

04 days / 03 nights

Day 1: CALAMA-SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA

Reception at the airport in Calama, and transfer to San Pedro de Atacama. On route, we will watch the beautiful landscape of the Salt Mountain Range and the Licancabur Volcano in the background. Arrival to the hotel in San Pedro de Atacama. Overnight.

Day 2: SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA-VALLE DE LA LUNA (MOON VALLEY)- SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA

Breakfast at the hotel in San Pedro de Atacama. Today we will visit the Pukará de Quitor and the citadel of Tulo, and then we will meet the Padre Le Paige Archaeological Museum, exhibiting the development of the Atacameña Culture and its history of 11,000 years. Afterwards we will visit the church, the Main Square, the house of Pedro de Valdivia (Spanish conquistador and founder of Santiago), and will be made. In the afternoon, we will enjoy the excursion to the Moon Valley, worldwide famous to be very similar to the moon surface, salt caves, the Tres Marías rock formations, and the Gran Duna (Great Dune) where it is possible to be a witness of the spectacular sunset. Return to the hotel in San Pedro de Atacama. Overnight.

Day 3: SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA-SALAR DE ATACAMA-ALTIPLANIC LAGOONS-SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA

Breakfast at the hotel in San Pedro de Atacama. Today we will make a full-day excursion to the village of Toconao, with its interesting liparita stone buildings, and then we will continue to the Atacama Salt Flat where the Los Flamencos National Reserve is located, with three of these beautiful flamingo species. Then, we will travel to the Altiplanic lagoons of Miscanti and Miñiques located over 4,000 m (over 13,000 ft) above sea level. Box lunch during this excursion. Return to the hotel in San Pedro de Atacama. Overnight.

Day 4: SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA-TATIO GEYSERS-MACHUCA-CALAMA

Breakfast at the hotel in San Pedro de Atacama. Early morning departure to the Tatio Geysers to experience this spectacular demonstration of volcanic activity. After that, we will continue to the small town of Machuca where we will visit the Church and solar panels. Our journey ends in San Pedro de Atacama. Transfer to the Calama airport to take the departure flight.

WATCHING THE STARS

HALF DAY EXCURSION

Departure from your hotel in San Pedro de Atacama to the astronomical centre. During the first part of the tour, the guide explains the naked eye sky. With this tour, passengers will learn among others what a constellation is, how to read a sky map and recognize the main stars. The guides' team has a green laser pointer to show unambiguously the various constellations. When the moon is visible, it is possible to take images of it through the telescopes, either with digital cameras, or with reflex (there are adapters for Nikon, Canon, Minolta and Pentax cameras). At the end of the tour, you will have some time to share experiences with a warm drink.

Transfer back to San Pedro de Atacama.

ATV QUAD SAFARI SALT MOUNTAIN (4 X 4)

HALF DAY EXCURSION

We depart from our hotel in San Pedro de Atacama, and drive for 6 km (3 miles) by transfer to the motorcycle base. Explore the plentiful of the Atacama Desert through an ATV QUAD SAFARI, crossing big sand dunes and rivers to get to what we call the Dark Side of the Moon. We will be able to appreciate spectacular views of the Salty Range and the Valleys. Our ATV QUAD SAFARI is offered at beginner and intermediate level to suit your ability. Upon completion of the tour, it is time to return to the base and take the transfer back to our hotel in San Pedro de Atacama.

The North

Right at the north of Chile, beyond the most commonly visited part of the Atacama Desert, lay the coastal cities of Iquique and Arica not far from the Peruvian and Bolivian borders with which they share a common history derived from the pre-Conquest cultures of the region. The attraction for visitors today in this startling barren landscape is the rich archaeological heritage, and some of the best surfing in Latin America. There are immense geoglyphs, ancient cave art and excellent museums. To the east, this arid landscape of shades of brown and gold gives way to the foothills of the Andes and rises up to become part of the vast altiplano, where magnificent panoramas of snow-topped volcanoes, herds of vicuña grazing amongst flowers and brightly coloured lakes await. Lauca National Park is visually stunning, and is on the route for travellers who are taking the road route from Chile to La Paz in Bolivia, via the equally amazing Sajama National Park. The wildlife here is copious, with grazing herds of llamas, alpacas, vicuñas and vizcachas (chinchillas) easily spotted, along with the more elusive deer, foxes and armadillos. Head for the city of Putre if you want to stay in the middle of the Park. From the mountain town of Putre (3,500 m), with its rolling hills and Inca terraces, you can visit the whitewashed adobe village of Parinacota where the church houses vivid frescoes and the skulls of former priests. From Parinacota the road climbs to the Lago Chungará (4,500 m), whose sapphire depths reflect the snowcapped cones of volcanoes.



Suggested Hotels

Iquique:



Terrado Suites

Beautiful spaces with wide views over the Cavancha beach, one of the most beautiful landscapes of Iquique. All rooms and apartments have free Wi-Fi. With a privileged ocean view as a backdrop, the Casablanca restaurant delights the palate of its guests. Please ask about the other two Terrado properties in Iquique.



Holiday Inn Express

If you are looking for a holiday or business hotel Holiday Inn Iquique is an excellent choice. The hotel is located in front of Playa Brava, and a few steps from the Casino and minutes away from the city centre and ZOFRI (the Duty Free shopping zone). The gym facilities, parking, pool and exterior Jacuzzi all add to the attraction.



Hilton Garden Inn Iquique

Hilton Garden Inn Iquique offers a convenient location and rooms with views of the ocean. Close to Cavancha Beach, dining and casinos, the hotel features sophisticated architecture and a warm, welcoming atmosphere. A Pavilion Pantry® convenience store, on-site restaurant, free wi-fi, in room fridge, and a fitness centre means this hotel appeals to both the business visitor and holiday maker.



Suggested Itinerary

Day 1: IQUIQUE

Reception in the Iquique Airport and transfer to hotel. Afternoon at leisure to stroll around the city. Overnight at the hotel in Iquique.

Day 2: IQUIQUE

Breakfast at the hotel in Iquique. Departure for a city tour where we will be able to visit the beaches of Cavancha, Brava and Primeras Piedras. On the way, it is possible to see buildings dating back the Saltpeter Days (1880 – 1920), located in Balmaceda and Baquedano avenues, where the Astoreca Palace, the Regional Museum and other buildings are located. After that, we will visit the former Railway Station, from where the ancient train departed and arrived with the precious saltpeter cargo, ending our journey visiting Zona Franca (Duty-free zone) in Iquique. Return to the hotel in Iquique.

Day 3: IQUIQUE – PINTADOS GEOGLYPHS – HUMBERSTONE - IQUIQUE

Breakfast at the hotel in Iquique. Today we will carry out the excursion to the Pintados Geoglyphs and the Ghost Town of Humberstone, declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site, visiting also the memorial to the saltpeter workers. Arrival to the secluded saltpeter-refinery town of Humberstone. During our tour we will visit the deserted theater, market, church, streets and houses. Then we will depart towards Pozo Almonte, which was the place in charge of supplying water to the saltpeter trains. Arrival to the Pampa del Tamarugal, with 38,000 hectares of Tamarugos, trees that grow despite being in the middle of the driest desert in the world. Visit to the Pintados Geoglyphs, where there are more than 400 designs (human, animal, and geometric). Return to the hotel in Iquique.

Day 4: IQUIQUE

Breakfast at the hotel. At agreed time, transfer to airport to take departure flight.



Suggested Hotels

Arica:



Diego del Almagro

At the heart of Chinchorro beach a few metres from the sea and minutes from the city centre and main tourist attractions of the city, is located on Hotel Diego de Almagro Arica. Its strategic location and comfortable rooms and facilities are symbols of quality Hotel Diego de Almagro Arica.



Panamericana

Panamericana Hotel is located between El Laucho and La Lisera beaches and is only 2 km from Arica's city centre along a pleasant boardwalk. It offers bungalows and rooms, an outdoor swimming pool and free Wi-Fi.



Qantati, Putre

A modern hotel located on the outskirts of Putre but just 10 minutes walk to the market square this is a great base from which to explore the Lauca National Park. There are 10 identical rooms set in a courtyard around the garden. The rooms are a good size, comfortable with central heating. Those at the far end of the hotel have nice views down the valley. Free Wi-Fi is available in the lounge.

Suggested Itinerary

DISCOVERING THE AYMARA ALTIPLANO

Day 1: ARICA

Reception at the Arica Airport, and transfer to the hotel. Tour through the city of Arica in the afternoon, we will visit the San Marcos Cathedral and Casa de la Cultura (House of Culture), both designed by the famous French engineering Gustave Eiffel, after that, visit the historical Morro de Arica (Arica hill) with its panoramic view, the beaches and the cove in order to watch pelicans and sea lions. Travel throughout the Azapa Valley, watching geoglyphs all over the hillsides, and visiting the San Miguel Archaeological Museum which exhibits the "Chinchorro Mummies", one of the oldest in the world with a historical data close to the 5,000 BC. Return to the hotel in Arica. Overnight.

Day 2: ARICA-AYMARA TOWNS-PUTRE

Breakfast at the hotel. Morning journey through the desert to the Andean Altiplano. Visit the Aymara towns of Tignamar, Belén, Chapiquiña, Socoroma and Putre, pre-Columbian settlements that still keep their traditions and customs, linked by the ancestral

pathways; the "Inca Trail". Dinner and overnight at the hostel in Putre.

Day 3: PUTRE-CHUNGARÁ LAKE-ARICA
Breakfast at the hostel in Putre. Morning departure to the historic town of Parinacota. Enter to the Lauca National Park declared World Biosphere Reserve by the UNESCO, where the highest lake of the world is located: Chungará Lake (4,570 MASL), surrounded by "Apus" (sacred mountains) and the "Payachatas" (twin volcanoes) Parinacota and Pomerape, which are the Mallkus (Gods) of the Andes. Watching of local fauna such as alpacas, vicuñas, llamas, and vizcachas. Return to Arica Hotel. Overnight.

Day 4: ARICA

Breakfast at the hotel in Arica. Transfer to the airport to take departure flight.

If you have more time enquire about including an additional day trip from Putre to Salar de Surire for stunning landscapes, flamingos and thermal springs.



Chilean Wide Special Products

explora hotels propose a way of travelling based on in-depth exploration of the surroundings, the luxury of the essential and a sustainable development. With hotels in 7 remote and magical destinations in South America, three of which are in Chile, they each respond to the unique beauty and characteristics of their location.

explora Patagonia : Located at the centre of the Torres del Paine National Park, explora Patagonia's unique location and explorations are the ultimate Patagonian experience.

explora Atacama : Carefully built within the San Pedro de Atacama oasis, explora Atacama's location and explorations are the best base from which to explore the many wonders of Atacama Desert, the driest desert on earth.

explora Rapa Nui : explora Rapa Nui mixes local guides, local understanding and explorations to discover the mysteries and unique charm of Easter Island, the world's most isolated island.

Also look out for explora properties in Peru's Sacred Valley, Bolivia's Uyuni, and Salta and El Chalten in Argentina.



Food: Seafood is the pride and joy of Chilean cuisine. Almost every port on the Chilean coast has a small market or a row of seafood restaurants where excellent seafood can be found. For carnivores try cazuela de vacuno (meat stew with pumpkin, potato, coriander and a twist of lemon), an asado or barbeque are also popular with families. Lunch is the main meal and often good value set lunches can be had in restaurants ask for the menu del dia. Breakfast tend to be continental-style rolls and jam.

Drink: Chilean wines are excellent and world renowned. Regarded as the Chilean national drink, pisco sour is a tangy, aperitif made from pisco (a white brandy, freshly squeezed lemon juice and sugar). It differs from the Peruvian version as no egg white makes it less foamy. Other delicious drinks are vaina, a mixture of brandy, egg and sugar and cola de mono, a mixture of aguardiente, coffee, milk and vanilla served very cold at Christmas. Coffee, in Chile, is usually instant, although it's getting easier to find good, real coffee in the cities. Chilean beer is mainly bottled lager.

Shopping: The finest and arguably most beautiful goods you can buy in Chile are the items – mainly jewellery – made of lapis lazuli, the deep-blue semi-precious stone found only in Chile and Afghanistan. One of the best place to buy these is in Bellavista barrio of Santiago. In the far north, the most common articles are alpaca sweaters, gloves and scarves, which you'll find in altiplano villages like Parinacota, or in Arica and Iquique. In the Elqui Valley area, you can pick up some beautiful leather goods, particularly in the crafts markets of La Serena. You might also be tempted to buy a bottle of pisco there, so that you can recreate that pisco sour experience back home. The Central Valley, as the agricultural heartland of Chile, is famous for its huaso gear, and you'll find brightly coloured ponchos and stiff straw hats in the numerous working huaso shops. The highlight in the Late District is the traditional Mapuche silver jewellery, while in the far south around Patagonia, is a good place to buy chunky, colourful knitwear. Los Dominicos market in Santiago is a pleasant to walk around and has a range of these goods.

Peru

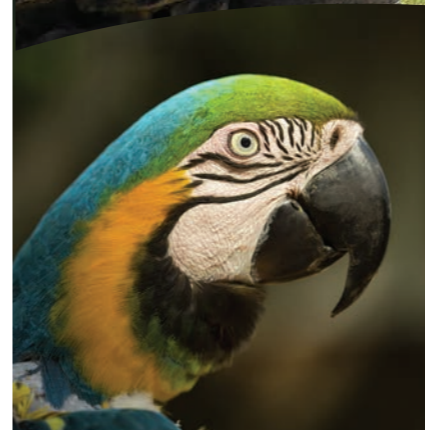
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FACTS

Capital: Lima

Population: 30.4 million

Language: Spanish. English is spoken in many of the large hotels and tourist areas.

Native languages such as Quechua and Aymara are spoken.

Official Time: GMT -5 / GMT -6

Main Industries: Mining, deep sea fishing, tourism, wool & meat production, philately and Peru is an emerging oil producer.

International Dialling Code: +51

Currency: Sol (PEN)

Electricity: 220 Volts, 60 Cycles 50 Cycles in Arequipa).

There are two types of electrical outlets in Peru. Plugs are American flat-pin or twin flat and round pin combined.



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South Pacific Ocean



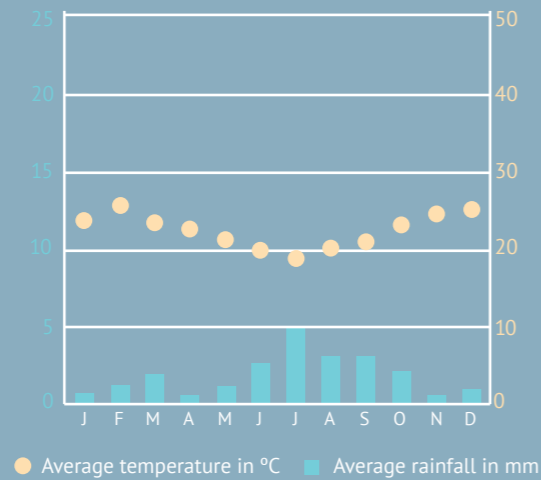
Cuzco	3400 m / 11200 ft
Machu Picchu	2400 m / 8000 ft
Arequipa	2400 m / 8000 ft
Colca Canyon	3400 m / 11200 ft
Urubamba Valley	2900 m / 9300 ft
Puno	3800 m / 12600 ft

Altitude

It is important to take precautions to avoid altitude sickness when visiting The Highlands. Acclimation to the altitude is a must, with generally a minimum of 2 days is advised before exploring or going on hikes. Be sure to try a hot tea or an infusion of coca leaves on arrival. During your first day move slowly and eat lightly, resting the first couple of hours. Also make sure you drink plenty of water. Lima, Iquitos, Paracas, Nazca, Trujillo, Chiclayo and Puerto Maldonado are at sea level.

Flying Times

TO	FROM LIMA
Cuzco	1 hr 20
Puno	1 hr 40
Arequipa	1 hr 25
Puerto Maldonado	1 hr 35
Huaraz	1 hr
Trujillo	1 hr 10



Peru

Peru is the home of the Inca Empire and has become one of South America's premier tourist destinations with an endless range of natural and man-made wonders.

The Highlands are home to the condor and countless indigenous communities alongside the colonial gems of Cuzco and Arequipa; Machu Picchu is the most famous example of the extraordinary architectural legacy that was left behind.

In the East the mountains shelve away and give into the dense vegetation and rich fauna of the Amazon Basin, a must on any visit to Peru.

Lima is the capital of Peru at the Pacific seaside near the coast, in the middle of the country; other important cities include Arequipa in the South and Trujillo in the north.

The summer months are January, February and March. The most popular time to visit is May to October, during the dry season of the Highlands.

The Coast boasts unspoilt beaches, fertile river valleys, arid deserts and exotic dry forests. Humid, sunny and warm virtually all year round, especially in the north.

The Highlands dominated by the Andes Mountain Range, includes the deepest canyons and highest navigable lake on Earth – Colca Canyon and Lake Titicaca.

The dry season (April to October) is best for trekking, with sunny days and little rain.

The Tropical Jungle where the Amazon rises; is one of the greatest natural reserves on the planet, boasting an incredible diversity of flora and fauna. During the dry season (April to October) there are fewer insects and animals are easier to spot by the rivers.

Travel Information

Other than valid passports, travellers from most countries in Western Europe (including the United Kingdom) and the Americas do not need an additional entry visa.

Visitors from the United Kingdom and United States entering Peru for tourism are granted a 6 month stay which may be extended by the immigration office.

Jorge Chavez International Airport in Lima is the primary port of entry into Peru with daily flights available with LATAM and Avianca. Domestic flights are the easiest way to reach the main destinations.

When to Travel

Lima and the desert coast are generally dry, with around 28 °C during summer (December-April); coastal mists can bring this down to 15 °C in winter (July-September).

In the Andean region (especially Cuzco), the wet season runs from November-March; in the dry season (April-October), night time temperatures can drop to freezing. June-September are the best months for hikers.

The Inca Trail is one of the most popular treks in Peru and South America. In order to maintain and preserve this sacred site, the trek is closed every February to be properly maintained and allow time to regenerate. As an alternative the Lares Trek can be visited.

RECOMMENDATIONS

We organise tailor made itineraries to suit each customers' needs depending on their interests and time available to travel. The main highlights we would recommend for first time visitors include Lima, Arequipa, Lake Titicaca, Cuzco and Machu Picchu – with perhaps an extension into the Amazon Basin or to the Coast.

Please be sure to bring the following personal equipment:

- Day pack for personal items
- Comfortable walking shoes (well-broken in)
- Rain jacket or rain poncho (in the Andes it may rain at any time)
- Warm jacket for cool evenings and wool sweaters
- Pants (short and long)
- Wool or flannel shirts
- T-shirts and light cotton shirts
- Hat with brim or tennis cup
- Camera
- Binoculars (there are 1879 different species of birds in Peru)
- Sun Glasses
- Sunscreen
- Lip Balm
- Insect Repellent
- * If you are taking medication bring written copies of your prescription and supplies.
- * If you wear contact lenses be sure to bring extra sets and solutions as the dry weather prevents you from using your lenses for long periods of time.

WHEN DOING THE INCA TRAILS AND / OR MACHU PICCHU:

- Small duffel bag for the majority of your gear
- Canteen or water bottle
- Personal flashlight

The train to Aguas Calientes (Machu Picchu town) only permits 1 piece of luggage (bag / backpack) at 5 kg.

The maximum weight permitted per person is 8 kg when doing the Inca Trail.

When doing the Inca Trail, we recommend a good sleeping bag. You can take your own or request one when making your booking.

If you have any extra luggage, we can arrange for it to be left at your hotel and collect it on your return.

Lima

Widely known as 'The City of Kings', Lima is the only capital city in South America that overlooks the ocean.

Founded in 1535 by Francisco Pizarro, Lima retains a superb colonial architecture in the centre with stunning churches, monasteries, balconies and mansions. Although it offers first class hotels and great nightlife in its vicinity, the arrival of modernity has not affected the historic centre, which is why it is recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1988.

Lima offers a diverse range of attractions for all tourists from museums with great works of art, archaeological sites, beaches, the boardwalk, valleys, natural reserves, adventure sports and exquisite cuisine, giving the capital its unique qualities and making Lima an exceptional experience for all visitors.



Suggested Hotels



Hotel Antigua Miraflores

Enjoy the elegance and character of a turn of the century mansion with all the comforts and amenities of a fine hotel and the warmth and charm of a colonial B&B. Tasteful decor, attention to detail, with attentive and friendly staff which will make your stay, in the heart of cultural Lima, unforgettable.



El Tambo ***

With 2 properties ideally located in the district of Miraflores, close to banks, restaurants and major modern and cultural attractions. El Tambo offers comfortable accommodation with a good overall quality of service.



Casa Andina Standard Miraflores***

This is a convenient, safe and functional hotel located in the district of Miraflores. As part of the Casa Andina chain, you can expect a good quality product throughout the country.

This chain has 3 types of hotels which are Classic (budget), Select (corporate) and Private Collection (luxury).



Four Points by Sheraton****

This property is located in Miraflores and is ideal for passengers travelling for business or for those who are looking for extra comfort and excellent service. As part of the Starwood Hotels chain, you can expect an excellent quality of service from this property, consistent with its partner branches worldwide.



Belmond Miraflores Park Hotel *****

This luxury hotels is renowned for its beautiful garden location beside the Pacific Ocean, it has breathtaking views out to the sea. Recently refurbished, it still maintains its original colonial architecture and each room is unique to ensure that passengers have their own individual experience.



JW Marriot****

This luxury property offers a fantastic central location above the beach front cliffs, awe-inspiring architecture and magnificent views of the capital city. This hotel offers a variety of modern amenities including a spa and state-of-the-art fitness centre. This hotel also has two restaurants serving a variety of international dishes with an emphasis on fresh seafood.

Suggested Day Excursions

CITY TOUR: COLONIAL AND MODERN LIMA

Daily 09:30 or 14:30

Panoramic view of the residential areas of Lima: Miraflores with its Central Park, its boardwalk at the top of the cliffs facing the Pacific Ocean and the Huaca Pucllana and San Isidro with its olive grove. Continue to the historic centre to appreciate the main tourist attractions: The San Martin Square, the Plaza Mayor (Main Square), the Cathedral and the Government and Archbishop Palace.

PACHACAMAC RUINS AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM

Daily 09:00 or 14:00 (except Mondays)

Visit the ruins of Pachacamac (30 km / 19 miles south of Lima), the most important pre-Inca religious centre on the Peruvian coast. Experience the time of the Incas at the Temple of the Sun and at the "Mamacuna" (House of the Chosen Women). Afterwards, stop at the renowned "Museo Nacional de Arqueología, Antropología e Historia", which contains the most complete collection of pottery, weaving and monoliths from pre-Columbian civilizations.

MUSEO LARCO

Daily 09:30 or 14:30

This private museum contains a fascinating collection of beautifully modelled pottery vessels, unique gold and silver work and erotic ceramics from pre-Inca civilizations. An impressive display of thousands of ceramic pieces from the Moche culture brings animals, plants and anthropomorphic deities to life.

LIMA GOURMET TOUR + LUNCH

Daily except January 1st, December 24th, 25th and 31- 09:45

The gastronomic tour of Lima, starts at a local roastery in the bohemian district of Barranco where daily, the coffee beans are hand-picked for an organic Peruvian coffee. You will also tour the colonial streets of Barranco, home to artists, musicians and the city's top art galleries. Continue to a traditional local market in the district of San Isidro to try exotic fruits and products and learn the ancient myths and legends associated with them. The next stop is one of the city's top seafood restaurants (cebicherías): Embarcadero 41 Fusión in the Miraflores district.



You will discover the secrets to the perfect Cebiche and Pisco Sour as you prepare the dish and cocktail with the head chef and bartender. The last stop is lunch at Huaca Pucllana Restaurant, located within a pre-Inca archaeological complex. This restaurant is so impressive that the last King of Spain (Juan Carlos), Mick Jagger, Bill and Hillary Clinton, just to name a few, have made sure not to miss it during their trips to Lima. Enjoy a variety of gourmet Peruvian dishes as well as four different desserts and another pisco based cocktail.

THE MAGIC WATER CIRCUIT

Private from Tuesday to Sunday and holidays // SIC from Tuesday to Sunday. Show starts: 19:15 / 20:15 / 21:30 hrs

A park on the edge of the downtown area of Lima has been transformed into the largest electronic water fountains complex in the world, certified by the Guinness Book of Records. The Magic Water Circuit (Circuito Mágico del Agua) has more than a dozen fountains that send water shooting into the air. Locals and tourists enjoy a wonderful show of water, lights, music and images presented in the famous "Parque de la Reserva".

PALOMINO ISLANDS

Daily 08:30 or 13:00

Transfer to the Regatas Club at La Punta in Callao (Lima's Port) for a 4-hour yacht cruise to the Palomino Islands, inhabited by hundreds of sea lions and guano birds. An opportunity to swim with sea lions. San Lorenzo, Peru's largest island, and El Frontón, a former prison island, can also be seen.

GRAND GOURMET FEAST IN LIMA'S EXCLUSIVE RESTAURANTS

Lima is recognized as the gastronomic capital of the Americas. Any connoisseur or neophyte will delight with the one thousand and one new ways in which Peruvian food is prepared daily: New Andean cuisine, creole, fresh sea food, Chinese, French, Mediterranean, and Italian food. You name it, we have it for the epicurean traveller at:

Huaca Pucllana, Las Brujas de Cachiche, El Señorío de Sulco, José Antonio, La Rosa Náutica, Pescados Capitales, La Mar, El Mercado, China Town's Wa Lok, Astrid y Gastón, La Gloria, Rafael, Central and Trattoria di Mambrino.

CARAL: OLDEST VESTIGES OF CIVILIZATION IN THE AMERICAS

Daily 07:00

Excursion to the Sacred City of Caral located right outside the mid-valley of Supe (182 km / 115 miles north of Lima and 23 km / 14 miles east from the Pan-American highway). In complete isolation from other cultures, Caral rapidly progressed reaching an unparalleled degree of sophistication and religion became the strength of control and social cohesiveness. Fourteen carbon-dating samples have confirmed the age of Caral, placing it as the oldest city in the Americas (Archaic period, between the years 3,000 and 2,000 BC). Lunch included.

Arequipa

The colonial city of Arequipa, with its guardian volcano, El Misti, is the ideal place to start exploring southern Peru. This is the second most important city in Peru and is referred to as the "Ciudad Blanca / White City" because it is mostly built from "sillar", an off-white volcanic rock.

This city is a showcase of fine architecture with its colonial buildings, mansions and churches against a perennial blue sky. The well preserved Monastery of Santa Catalina is the most impressive example of architecture of the XVI and XVII century.

This is the gateway to two of the world's deepest canyons, Colca and Catahuasi, whose villages and terraces hold once a traditional way of life and whose skies are home to the magnificent condor.

From Arequipa there are routes to Lake Titicaca and to the border with Chile.

Suggested Hotels



Casa Andina Premium Arequipa*****

This property is a national landmark, raised on the old House of Coin which was built in 1794. This property is regarded more as a living museum than a hotel.

Its strategic location, only a few blocks from the Main Square makes it an ideal choice for business and leisure travellers.



El Libertador*****

Located in the district of Selva Alegre, this elegant property is perfect to relax. Recently remodelled for extra comfort, this hotel has its own garden where guests can play golf, go for a swim, enjoy traditional Peruvian BBQs and even meet the hotel's mascot, Juanita, the centenary turtle.



Casa Andina select Arequipa****

Located in the centre of Arequipa's Main Square, next to the city's beautiful Cathedral. Just a few steps away, you can find the commercial and financial districts of Arequipa along with the Monastery of Santa Catalina and the Museum of the "Dama de Ampato" where the famous Peruvian mummy Juanita can be visited.



Colca Lodge****

This property is located 165 km north of the city of Arequipa in the Colca Valley.

This luxurious property offers a large variety of activities for its guest including fishing on the Colca River. Relax at the hot spring or enjoy a day of pampering at their lavish spa.

There is even a ranch so kids can enjoy themselves and interact with llamas and alpacas.



Eco Inn***

This traditional rustic property is also located in the Colca Valley and within minutes of the city of Yanque. It offers incredible views of the Colca Valley and its surrounding landscapes. This eco-friendly hotel will make you feel at home with nature.



This fantastic hotel is located in the heart of the Colca Canyon, nestled in the Peruvian Andes. Located on the left bank of the Colca River it offers spectacular views on the canyon and Mount Mismi, Andean birthplace of the Amazon River.

Although in a secluded location, the hotel offers a large number of activities from fishing and farming to relaxing spa treatments to accommodate everyone's interest.

Suggested Day Excursions

COUNTRYSIDE AND SABANDIA'S MILL

Daily 09:30 or 14:30

The outskirts of Arequipa with sunny days almost all year around, invite visitors to enjoy a moment of communion with nature which has been inspirational for painters, photographers, writers and poets. The tour includes the district of Socabaya, the colonial-style "Molino de Sabandía", the Yumina terraces, and the "Mansión del Fundador". A nearly 1 hour trek through beautiful countryside is also included.

TORO MUERTO PETROGLYPHS Daily 08:30

Drive to Toro Muerto, passing through the picturesque valleys of Uchumayo, Vitor, Siguan and Majes. Here, a 2 hour trek begins to admire more than 5,000 volcanic rock engravings. Lunch included.

AREQUIPA'S TYPICAL RESTAURANTS

Have lunch at a typical "Picantería", such as Sol de Mayo or Tipika, to taste a variety of dishes of Arequipa's cuisine.

SANTA TERESA / CASA DEL MORAL / JUANITA'S MUMMY

Daily 09:00 or 14:00 / Sundays 09:00

Visit the Monastery of Santa Teresa which contains masterpieces of art from the colonial period. Continue to "La Casa del Moral", a colonial house famous for its "sillar" carved facade. The tour concludes at the museum "Santuarios Andinos", which houses the "Juanita" mummy, a beautiful maiden sacrificed to the Apu Ampato by Inca priests.

* Because of yearly maintenance works, only a mummy's replica will be displayed from 1 January to 1 May.

Suggested Programmes

AREQUIPA 02 days / 01 night

Day 1: Arrival in Arequipa. Reception and transfer to the hotel. For morning arrivals, enjoy an afternoon tour of the "White City", including the "Plaza de Armas" (main square), the Cathedral, La Compañía Church and the famous Monastery

of Santa Catalina. Then, visit its picturesque surroundings. (For afternoon arrivals, same tour is offered the next morning).

Day 2: Transfer to airport or bus station.

COLCA CANYON 02 days / 01 night

Day 1: Departure to the Colca Canyon. Enjoy first the spectacular Misti and Chachani volcanoes. Then, go through the National Reserve of Salinas and Aguada Blanca, where vicuñas and possibly guanacos can be seen. Box lunch included. In the afternoon, arrive at Chivay or Yanque.

Day 2: In the morning, visit the towns of Maca and Pinchollo. Afterwards, stop at observation point of Cruz del Cóndor, sanctuary of the condors. Here, appreciate the beauty of one of the deepest canyons in the world. On the way back, visit the town of Yanque. In the afternoon, return to Arequipa via Patapampa. From the "Mirador de los Andes" enjoy a spectacular view of the Ampato, Sabancaya and Hualca-Hualca volcanoes.

COLCA CANYON SPECIAL 03 days / 02 nights

From Arequipa to Puno

Day 1: Departure to the Colca Canyon. Enjoy first the spectacular Misti and Chachani volcanoes. Then, go through the National Reserve of Salinas and Aguada Blanca, where vicuñas and possibly guanacos can be seen. Box lunch included. In the afternoon, arrive at Chivay or Yanque.

Day 2: In the morning, visit the towns of Maca and Pinchollo. Afterwards, stop at observation points of Cruz del Cóndor and Tapay, sanctuaries of the condors. Here, appreciate the beauty of one of the deepest canyons in the world. Next, visit the villages of Lari and Ichupampa. In the afternoon, walk to Uyu Uyu (pre-Inca ruins) and visit the towns of Coporaque and Chivay.

Day 3: Enjoy a 7-hour drive from Colca to Puno appreciating on the way splendid landscapes of the "Cordillera de los Andes". Box lunch included. On route, visit the unspoiled colonial town of Lampa, known as the "Ciudad Rosada" (Pink City).



Cuzco

Located in the southern mountain range of Peru, Cuzco is referred to as the archaeological capital of the Americas. This was the capital of the Inca Empire until the arrival of the Spaniards in 1532.

It was declared a World Cultural Heritage Site in 1983 by UNESCO because of its historical importance.

Its name comes from the Quechua word 'qusqu' which means 'centre of the world'.

This breathtaking destination features captivating landscapes such as the Sacred Valley where the mountains are closed in by terraces, fine examples of engineering by Inca stonemasons including its massive stone constructions and the richness of its culture.

Cuzco is the starting point to visit the Sacred Valley of the Incas and the ruins of Sacsayhuamán, Ollantaytambo, Chincheros, Kenko, Písac, Aguas Calientes, Paucartambo, Tambomachay, Yucay, Andahuaylillas, Pikillacta, Puca Pucará, Suchuna or Rodadero, Sabacurinca, Rachi and Tipón.

It is also the gateway to the Inca sanctuary Machu Picchu, the most famous Inca citadel and one of the New 7 Wonders of the World.



Suggested Hotels

Cuzco



Aranwa****

This Boutique Hotel is the essence of luxury and comfort in the heart of the Inca City. Built in a colonial mansion of the XVI century, it displays several paintings of the Cuzco school, colonial sculptures and carvings that will transport through the ages. The elegant rooms are equipped with oxygen system and heated floors to maximise comfort.

This hotel is part of a large Peruvian chain with unique properties in various destinations.



Maytaq Wasin

This boutique hotel is located in the heart of the Incan Empire. Enjoy the breathtaking views of this city and surrounding mountains at the open terrace.

This modern property offers the comforts of the modern era while surrounded by the charming architectural structures from Cuzco.



Belmond Hotel Monasterio****

This luxury hotel is part of the Belmond chain and is right beside the Main Square (Plaza de Armas) and is a former monastery and national monument dating from 1952. This delightful retreat combined centuries-old charm with luxury hotel service, inspired restaurants and boutique rooms.



Casa Andina Premium Cuzco****

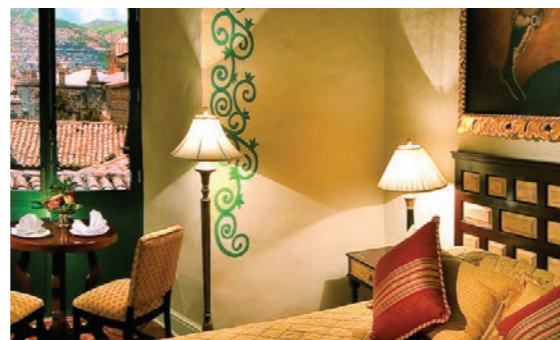
It is located in a beautiful XVIII century mansion. Its majestic colonial patios invite you to live an authentic Cuzco experience in a space full of beauty and history.

It has an ideal location to discover the charms of the Imperial City, just 4 blocks away from the Main Square (Plaza de Armas).



Palacio Nazarenas****

Another luxurious property by the Belmond chain, also located beside the Main Square (Plaza de Armas). This former palace and convent emerged from years of restoration to become one of the city's most exclusive hotels. Its style and design are unique which makes it an incredible alternative to its partner property. Enjoy the fabulous spa, outdoor pool and stylish restaurants while you soak up the culture from this great city.



Sacred Valley



Pakaritampu***

This hotel is located in the Sacred Valley in the village of Ollantaytambo 2 minutes from the train station, with direct connection to Machu Picchu.

This hotel offers rustic rooms surrounded by beautiful gardens where you can really reconnect with nature.



Hotel Sonesta Posadas del Inca Yucay***

This property has a great location, located in the heart of the Sacred Valley of the Incas, five minutes away from Urubamba and one hour from the ancient Inca capital of Cuzco and close to Machu Picchu. This was a former XVIII century colonial style monastery surrounded by beautiful gardens.



Sol y Luna Lodge & Spa****

With a wonderful location in the heart of the Sacred Valley, this is the perfect place to begin your tour of the region. This property offers unique bungalows with incredible views to their gardens and a relaxing spa which offers an array of therapies. In the evening, sample the mouth-watering blend of Andean, Creole and international flavours and ingredients served in the Killa Wasi restaurant.

Aguas Calientes (Machu Picchu Town)



El Mapi Machu Picchu****

This smart, contemporary and cosy property is secluded from the hustle and bustle from Machu Picchu Town. Enjoy a relaxing and friendly atmosphere while you explore Aguas Calientes and ready yourself to explore Machu Picchu.



Inkaterra Machu Picchu****

This luxury hotel is the best nature retreat when visiting the enigmatic Lost City of the Incas. Surrounded by the forest, river and mountains, this is the preferred hotel if you are looking at reconnecting with nature. You may even be able to see a spectacled bear from the terrace.



Sumaq****

This luxurious family hotel offers a privileged location in the Machu Picchu historic sanctuary, on the banks of the Vilcanota River near the main tourist attractions.

This property offers a bus service from the door of the hotel to and from Machu Picchu for its guest. This hotel offers luxurious comfort and cuisine alongside beautiful landscapes.



Suggested Day Tours

PISAC MARKET AND OLLANTAYTAMBO

Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays 09:00

Excursion to the village of Pisac, located 32 km (20 miles) from Cuzco, and shopping at the colourful Indian market. Lunch in Urubamba, followed by a tour of the impressive town and fortress of Ollantaytambo in the Sacred Valley of the Incas.

** This tour can also originate at the Sacred Valley of the Incas.*

PISAC RUINS *Daily 09:00*

Drive up and hike the splendid Inca ruins of Pisac at 3,250 m (10,654 ft), a large complex of religious temples, housing areas, agricultural terraces, cliff-hanging paths and astronomic observatories.

URUBAMBA RIVER RAFTING *April / October Daily 08:00*

In the morning, transfer to the private dock located at km 84 of the Urubamba-Ollantaytambo road, to begin river rafting down Urubamba (I-III grade rapids). A unique experience which combines the excitement of the river with beautiful landscapes. Picnic lunch included.

TIPON AND ANDAHUAYLILLAS *Daily 09:00 or 14:00*

Excursion to Tipón, located 25 km (15 miles) south of Cuzco, where evidence is found of the extraordinary hydraulic systems built by the Incas on a spectacular setting.

Afterwards, visit Andahuaylillas and its main church, known as the Peruvian "Sistine Chapel", which contains an old pipe organ, beautiful religious paintings, and a baroque altar.

HACIENDA HUAYOCCARI *Daily*

Standing regally in the Sacred Valley of the Incas, this exclusive hacienda, with ample gardens and rooms, housing a fine collection of Peruvian Art, offers an exquisite lunch.

The Lambarri family, owners and hosts, grow their own produce for the preparation of various dishes.

CHINCHERO / MARAS / MORAY

Daily 09:00 (best day Sunday)

After driving through beautiful scenery, visit the village of Chinchero located 28 km (17 miles) from Cuzco. The main plaza, the nearby Inca ruins and the Sunday market (where bartering is still practiced), are some of its many attractions. Afterwards, visit Maras (salt mines of the Inca period still in use) and Moray (an experimental agricultural centre from the same period). Lunch included.

**This tour can also originate at the Sacred Valley of the Incas.*

WILLOC'S WEAVERS *Daily 08:30*

Full day excursion to a native rural Quechua community (3,700 m / 12,129 ft), home to a group of families advocated to human and cultural values. Most men earn their living as porters, or "Huayruros", for the Inca Trek.

Women, also strong and resourceful, are outstanding weavers famous for producing the highest quality textiles in the Sacred Valley of the Incas. Lunch included.

**This tour can also originate at the Sacred Valley of the Incas.*

CUZCO / PUNO OR VICE VERSA (BY TRAIN)

Mon / Wed / Sat (November / April) Fridays (from May / October)

During this full-day train trip to Puno (Lake Titicaca), enjoy the mysticism offered by the Andean landscape aboard the Perurail Titicaca train*; considered one of the top two railway journeys in South America. Its vantage dining cars and outdoor bar-car observatory allow travellers to admire powerful views of the Andes cutting-crisp blue skies, altiplanic people, small villages on the meandering Huatanay, and vicuña and alpaca foraging. Lunch included. Upon arrival, transfer to the hotel.

This will be a full day nonstop trip, allowing passengers to enjoy the most beautiful scenery, as well as a great service. This service will have a capacity for 132 passengers and will have 6 cars: 4 dining cars, the Observatory bar car and a car for

luggage. A gourmet lunch will be included and; to enjoy even more the atmosphere of the trip, there will be entertainment on board with Peruvian music and dances from our highlands.

**This is also possible by bus.*

*** Runs from Cuzco to Puno on Wed, Fri & Sun / Puno to Cuzco on Mon, Thurs & Sat.*

FULL DAY MACHU PICCHU *Daily Departures*

a) Depart and return to Cuzco. Transfer to train station for a scenic 3 hour 40 minute trip through the Urubamba Valley, followed by a 30 minute bus ride up to Machu Picchu, one of the New Seven Wonders of the World. Guided tour through the ruins. After a buffet lunch at Belmond Sanctuary Lodge, return to Cuzco by train and transfer to the hotel.

b) Depart from Cuzco and return to Ollantaytambo. Transfer to train station for a scenic 3 hour 40 minute trip through the Urubamba Valley, followed by a 30 minute bus ride up to Machu Picchu, one of the New Seven Wonders of the World. Guided tour through the ruins. After buffet lunch at

Belmond Sanctuary Lodge, return to Ollantaytambo and transfer to the hotel.

c) Depart from Ollantaytambo and return to Cuzco. Transfer to Ollantaytambo station for a scenic 1 hour 30 minute train trip through the Urubamba Valley, followed by a 30 minute bus ride up to the breathtaking Machu Picchu, one of the Seven Wonders of the World. Guided tour through the ruins. After buffet lunch at Belmond Sanctuary Lodge, return to Cuzco by train and transfer to the hotel.

d) Depart and return to Ollantaytambo. Transfer to Ollantaytambo station for a scenic 1 hour 30 minute train trip through the Urubamba Valley, followed by a 30 minute bus ride up to the breathtaking Machu Picchu, one of the Seven Wonders of the World. Guided tour through the ruins. After buffet lunch at Belmond Sanctuary Lodge, return to Ollantaytambo and transfer to the hotel.

** For extension options, check out page 69*



Suggested Excursions

CUZCO, SACRED VALLEY OF THE INCAS AND MACHU PICCHU

(05 days / 04 nights)

Day 1: Arrival at Cuzco airport. Reception and transfer to the hotel. In the afternoon, tour of the city including the "Plaza de Armas", the Cathedral and Santo Domingo Church (Koricancha), followed by visit of the surrounding ruins of Puka Pukara, Kenko, Tampu Machay, and the renowned fortress and religious site of Sacsayhuaman a site famous for its cosmic energy.

Day 2: Excursion to the village of Pisac, located 32 km (20 miles) from Cuzco, and shopping at the colourful local market (only Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays). Lunch in Urubamba, followed by a tour of the impressive town and fortress of Ollantaytambo in the Sacred Valley of the Incas. Overnight in Urubamba.

Day 3: Transfer to Ollantaytambo station. A scenic, nearly two hour train trip through the Urubamba Valley, followed by a 30 minute bus ride up to the breathtaking Lost City of the Incas, Machu Picchu. Guided tour through the ruins. Overnight at Machu Picchu Sanctuary Lodge, or in the town of Machu Picchu (at the base of the mountain).

Day 4: Free morning to visit and enjoy the ancient citadel. In the afternoon, return to Cuzco by train and transfer to the hotel.

Day 5: Transfer to airport, or train / bus station.

INCA TRAIL TO MACHU PICCHU

April / October (06 days / 05 nights)

Day 1: Arrival at Cuzco airport. Reception and transfer to the hotel. In the afternoon, tour of the city including the "Plaza de Armas", the Cathedral and Santo Domingo Church (Koricancha), followed by visit of the surrounding ruins of Puka Pukara, Kenko, Tampu Machay, and the renowned fortress and religious site of Sacsayhuaman a site famous for its cosmic energy.

Day 2: Early departure by bus to Chillca down the Sacred Valley, where hiking begins. Following the left bank of the Urubamba River, arrive at Llapata, the first archaeological remains along the Inca trail at 2,303 m (7,550 ft). Visit the terraces of Qenti. Hike to Huayllabamba Camp.

Day 3: Visit the village of Huayllabamba. The trail winds steeply cutting through dense vegetation reaching a meadow below the first pass. Breathtaking view of Mount Huayanay. After a two hour climb reach the Warmiwañuska pass, the highest point of the journey at 4,050 m (13,276 ft). The trail descends to Pacaymayo river Camp.

Day 4: Climb slowly to the second pass. Admire magnificent views of the mountain range. Descend to Chakicocha. On the way, visit the Runkuraqay and Sayacmarca ruins. Continue along a buttress and go through Phuyupatamarca ruins, the flagstone trail winds sharply down into the cloud forest reaching Wiñay Wayna ruins. Camp nearby.

Day 5: A two hour hike leads to Intipunku (Gate of the Sun), which overlooks the awesome Machu Picchu. Visit the citadel and go through its temples, observatories, water systems, dwellings, watchtowers and gardens. In the afternoon, return to Cuzco by train and transfer to the hotel.

Day 6: Transfer to airport, or train / bus station.

Important Information

PERU RAIL

Aguas Calientes is only accessible by train. You can take the train from Poroy Station (3-4 hours) or from Ollantaytambo Station in Urubamba (1.5 hours).

The train from Ollantaytambo Station takes you on a picturesque experience through the Urubamba Valley.

The train offers a snack service on board.

Each passenger may take 1 bag or backpack which must not exceed 5 kg or be larger than 62 inches (length / height / width). You can leave your main luggage in Cuzco and collect it upon your return.

For information regarding the embarkation policy, luggage policy or other details, visit www.perurail.com

PERMITS

In an effort to preserve its historical sites, the Peruvian Government have set a limit on the number of visitors that can access certain points of interest.

Permits and entrance fees are sold out well in advance so it's always in your best interest to book as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. The main attractions that you require permits and entrance tickets for are Machu Picchu, Wayna Picchu and the Inca Trail.

ZIG ZAG BUS

The Lost City of the Incas can only be accessed by bus. You can purchase your bus tickets on the day. The buses operate to / from Aguas Calientes every 5-10 minutes and are available from 05:10-15:30 hrs / Returns from 06:00-17:30.

Note: due to the long queues and to avoid the very last buses allow at least 30 minutes before the end of the running schedule to return.

PORTERS

When doing the Inca Trail you can hire porters to assist with your luggage. This needs to be requested in advance at the time of requesting the Inca Trail services.

FITNESS

The Inca Trail is considered a moderate hike; however, there are a lot of staircases to climb and the altitude can also affect the body. We recommend renting a wooden walking stick as it helps with your balance and reduces stress on the knees. If you have mobility issues, we would advise against taking on The Trail.



Puno

Puno is located on the Andean plateau by the shores of Lake Titicaca (the highest navigable lake in the world) and is the melting pot of the Aymara and Quechua Culture. Puno is a picturesque hillside city overlooking Lake Titicaca and one of its largest attractions, the Floating Island of Uros.

Lake Titicaca is thought to be a sacred place where the Inca Empire originated. Its inhabitants are proud of their Quechua and Aymara past, and their folkloric traditions that can be seen every year in the form of dances and rituals during the Candelaria festival.

Suggested Hotels



Sonesta Posadas del Inca Puno****

Situated on the shores of Lake Titicaca, this property is the embodiment of traditional warm Peruvian hospitality. This property offers panoramic views of the world's highest navigable lake, surrounded by snow-capped mountain peaks.



Casa Andina Standard Puno****

This is a quiet property with spacious common areas, including a living room with a fireplace and patio. It is a practical, safe and functional hotel with an excellent location.



Libertador Puno*****

This property is located on Esteves Island (private) and offers unforgettable sunrises and sunsets from any point as well as spectacular 360° views of the highest navigable lake in the world. From its private pier, travellers can navigate to islands lost in time where they can witness and participate from centuries-old traditions and crafts with their inhabitants.



Casa Andina Premium Puno*****

This property is nestled on the shores of Lake Titicaca and enjoys a spectacular location with stunning views of the world's highest navigable lake.

Another great property by Casa Andina for those who enjoy a little extra comfort.

Suggested Day Tours

CHULLPAS OF SILLUSTANI Daily 09:00 or 14:00

Tour the well-known pre-Inca "Chullpas" (towering stone tombs) located on the shores of Lake Umayo. Sillustani is said to be the burial site of the ancient Hatun Colla chiefs.

**This excursion can also be taken on the way from Juliaca airport to the hotel in Puno, or vice versa.*

TAQUILE ISLAND Daily 07:00

Full-day boat excursion to Taquile island, which is located on Lake Titicaca, 38 km from Puno. Inhabited by 2,000 Quechua speaking Indians, the island is considered a visitor paradise. Admire the world famous woven handicrafts and an ancient communal way of life. Lunch.

**This excursion includes a visit to the floating islands of the Uro Indians.*

**Please refer to the Peru / Bolivian section for more information.*

Suggested Excursions

AMANTANI ISLAND SPECIAL 02 days / 01 night

Day 1: Boat excursion to Amantani Island, located 42 km from Puno. With a population of over 4,000 Quechua inhabitants, it is known for its two pre-Inca ceremonial temples dedicated to earth's fertility. Ancient rituals are still practiced by "Andean Yatiris" here. Amantani's great concentration of energy and magnetic range attract visitors looking for esoteric answers to cosmic dualism. Overnight in a family house.

Day 2: Walk through the island to appreciate the natives' life style and to buy woven handicrafts, stone work, and straw baskets. Early afternoon, return to Puno.

**This excursion includes a visit to the floating islands of the Uro Indians.*

SUASI ISLAND SPECIAL 03 days / 02 nights

Day 1: Speedboat ride to Suasi Island (3,812 ft), located 80 km from Puno. Its very special mild microclimate throughout the year turns the island into a unique place to fulfil outdoor activities. Take an afternoon hike to watch a breathtaking sunset from a vantage point.

Day 2: Choose from a variety of activities offered by the hotel: bird-watching by boat or kayak, hikes, flora and fauna observation, canoe rides, walks on the beach, visits to Andean farming plots, among others.

Day 3: Morning at leisure. Early afternoon, return to Puno.

**This excursion includes a visit to the floating "totora" islands*

TAQUILE / LUQUINA / UROS

02 days / 01 night Minimum: 02 pax

Day 1: Early departure from Puno to Chucuito. Boat trip to the Taquile Island, which is inhabited by 2,000 Quechua speaking Indians, and is considered a visitor paradise. Admire the world famous woven handicrafts and an ancient communal way of life. Then, boat trip to Luquina Chico at Chucuito peninsula. In the afternoon, walk along the shores of Lake Titicaca to appreciate the local flora and fauna. Accommodation at an Aymara family house.

Day 2: Take a walk or rent a sailboat for a last tour of Luquina. Return to Puno. On the way, visit the floating islands of the Uro Indians. Arrival and transfer to the hotel.

TITILAKA 04 days / 03 nights

Day 1: Upon arrival at Juliaca airport, transfer to the Titilaka, an attractive boutique lodge, located in the secluded peninsula of Chucuito.

Day 2: Choose from a variety of tours and activities offered by the hotel, that range from contemplative to adventuresome, including: Kayak excursions, visit to Taquile island and to the "totora" floating islands of the Uro Indians, highland treks and bird-watching, visit of colonial churches in Juli and Pomata, mountain biking, relaxation and meditation session at Playa Socca while admiring a stunning scenery.

Day 3: Choose from a variety of tours and activities offered by the hotel.

Day 4: Morning at leisure. In the afternoon, transfer to Juliaca Airport.



Peru & Bolivia

Peru and Bolivia are fortunate to share Lake Titicaca, the highest navigable lake in the world.

Both countries share Quechua and Aymara traditions but the difference between countries is noticeable.

Bolivia's rich indigenous culture is full of extremes; from La Paz, the world's highest capital city to Uyuni, the largest salt flats in the world.

According to ancient myths, the founders of the Inca Empire rose here and it is believed that they threw all of their gold into the Lake to stop the Spanish colonists from taking it. As Lake Titicaca is located at such a high altitude (3,800 MASL) it is not possible for divers to reach the bottom even with the most advanced equipment to verify this theory.

Combine Peru and Bolivia for the ultimate experience of Lake Titicaca



Suggested Programmes

PUNO / LA PAZ BY BUS / CATAMARAN / BUS

Daily (03 days / 02 nights in La Paz)

Day 1: Transfer to the Sanctuary of Copacabana to board the catamaran cruise, sailing, enjoying a refreshment on board, towards Isla del Sol cradle of the Inca Empire. In this legendary island you will visit el Jardín (the Garden), las Escaleras (the Stairs) and la Fuente del Inca (the Inca Fountain). The itinerary includes a visit to the Complejo Cultural Inti Wata (Inti Wata Cultural Complex), Bolivia's main private tourist attraction, including the Ekako underground museum, traditional medicinal centres and the construction of totora rafts, the terraces Pachamama of Inca agriculture, an artisan centre, the Intica shelter and the greatest variety of Andean camelids located in Mirador Manco Capac. The visit to the Inti Wata Complex also includes navigation on board an immense typical totora raft and the panoramic visit of the Inca palace of Pilkokaina. Later the catamaran is approached again to enjoy a buffet lunch. Transfer by bus to the city of La Paz.

Day 2: Morning city tour including: the witchdoctor market, San Francisco church, the typical handicrafts of the Sagarnaga street and Plaza Murillo - where the Cathedral, Government Palace and the National Congress are located. Then, visit the famous Jaen street where interesting museums are clustered together, and the site where a replica of the semi-underground temple of the Tiwanaku culture can be admired. The tour continues to the residential areas and ends with a visit to the famous Valley of the Moon, a natural wonder.

Day 3: Transfer to airport.

PUNO / LA PAZ BY BUS / CATAMARAN (OVERNIGHT ON BOARD) / BUS

Daily (03 days / 02 nights)

Day 1: Transfer to Copacabana, visit to the Sanctuary and then board the catamaran cruise. Navigation to the Isla del Sol cradle of the Inca Empire. Lunch buffet on board. Visit the town of Challapampa, a small and solitary town north of the Isla del Sol where you can experience community tourism.

The settlers of Challapampa, through an innovative program organized by them, welcome visitors in the village to visit a typical house, school, chapel, a small museum also implemented by them, participate in an ancestral ritual, folkloric

demonstrations and sailing on board their typical fishing boats. The program includes a walk through Inca trails visiting the Inca temple of La Chinkana. Romantic dinner by candlelight and overnight on board the catamaran in cabins with exterior view and private bathroom.

Day 2: The following morning, after breakfast we will continue sailing on the catamaran enjoying the majestic panorama of Lake Titicaca towards the south of the Isla del Sol visiting the Inca palace of Pilkokaina. The itinerary includes the visit to the Cultural Complex Inti Wata, The main private tourist attraction of Bolivia, with an interesting underground museum of the Ekako, centres of traditional medicine and construction of totora rafts. Tour of the Pachamama terraces of Inca agriculture, an artisan centre, the Intica refuge and the largest variety of Andean camelids located in the Manco Capac viewpoint. At the end visit the Garden, the Stairs and the Fountain of the Inca. The visit to the Inti Wata Complex includes navigation on board an immense typical totora raft. Lunch buffet on board while sailing. Transfer by road to the city of La Paz.

Day 3: Transfer to airport.

PUNO / LA PAZ BY BUS / HYDROFOIL / BUS (OVERNIGHT AT SUN ISLAND)

Daily (04 days / 03 nights)

Day 1: Departure by bus to Copacabana with visits en route including the shire and the Dark Indian Virgen. Take a Hydrofoil cruise to Sun Island to visit the "Pilkocaina" Sun Temple. Soft llama trek to Posada del Inca Eco Lodge. Lunch at Posada del Inca. Afternoon at leisure to explore the surroundings. Dinner and overnight at the cosy "Posada del Inca" Eco Lodge.

Day 2: Breakfast. Morning at leisure. At noon, visit the Inca Staircase and Sacred fountain; taste the water believed to give eternal youth and happiness. After lunch at the Uma Kollu archaeological Restaurant. Hydrofoil cruise to Moon Island to visit the Sun Virgins Temple Ñak Uyu. Hydrofoil cruise back to Copacabana and then, bus transfer to the hotel in La Paz with a stop at Huatajata to experience the Andean Roots Eco Village that includes the Altiplano Museum.



Suggested Programmes

Day 3: Morning city tour of La Paz and its surroundings to appreciate native, colonial and modern areas, as well as the witchcraft market and breathtaking panoramas, all framed by the majestic Illimani mountain. The tour ends with a visit to the Valley of the Moon, a natural wonder.

Day 4: Transfer to airport.

PERU / BOLIVIA CULTURAL

Mondays and Wednesdays (11 days / 10 nights)

Day 1: Arrival in Lima. Reception and transfer to the hotel.

Day 2: Transfer to airport. Flight to Arequipa. Upon arrival, transfer to the hotel. In the afternoon, city tour of the "Ciudad Blanca" (White City), including the "Plaza de Armas" (main square), the Cathedral, La Compañía Church and the famous Monastery of Santa Catalina. Then, visit its picturesque surroundings.

Day 3: Transfer to airport. Flight to Juliaca. On arrival, transfer to the hotel in Puno. On the way, tour the well-known pre-Inca "Chullpas" of Sillustani (towering stone tombs), located on the shores of Lake Umayo. Sillustani is said to be the burial site of ancient Hatun Colla chiefs.

Day 4: In the morning, visit the floating "totora" islands of the Uro Indians, ancient inhabitants of Lake Titicaca, which is the highest navigable lake in the world.

Day 5: Bus drive to Copacabana. After visiting the Bolivian National shrine dedicated to the Virgin of Copacabana, take a catamaran to Chua. On route, visit Lake Titicaca's Island of the Sun and the Inti Wata cultural complex. Then, sail aboard a typical boat to enjoy a panoramic view of the Pilcocaina Inca Palace. Lunch onboard. Bus trip from Chua to the hotel in La Paz.

Day 6: Morning city tour including: the witch doctor market, San Francisco church, the typical handicrafts of the Sagarnaga street and Plaza Murillo - where the Cathedral, Government Palace and the National Congress are located. Then, visit the famous

Jaen street where interesting museums are clustered together, and the site where a replica of the semi-underground temple of the Tiwanaku culture can be admired. The tour continues to the residential areas and ends with a visit to the famous Valley of the Moon, a natural wonder.

Day 7: Transfer to airport. Flight to Cuzco. On arrival, transfer to the hotel. In the afternoon, tour of the city including the "Plaza de Armas", the Cathedral and Santo Domingo Church (Koricancha), followed by visit of the surrounding ruins of Puka Pukara, Kenko, Tampu Machay, and the renowned fortress and religious site of Sacsayhuaman, famous for its cosmic energy.

Day 8: Transfer to train station. A scenic 3 hour 40 minute trip through the Urubamba Valley, followed by a 30 minute bus ride up to the breathtaking Lost City of the Incas, Machu Picchu. Guided tour through the ruins. After lunch, return to Cuzco and transfer to the hotel.

Day 9: Excursion to the village of Pisac, located 32 km (20 miles) from Cuzco, and shopping at the colourful local market. Lunch in Urubamba, followed by a tour of the impressive town and fortress of Ollantaytambo in the Sacred Valley of the Incas.

Day 10: Transfer to airport. Flight to Lima. On arrival, transfer to the hotel. In the afternoon, tour some of Lima's main colonial sites: The Cathedral, "Plaza Mayor", Government, Archbishop and Torre Tagle Palaces. Afterwards, drive through Lima's modern residential areas: San Isidro with its olive grove, golf course, and "Huaca Huallamarca"; and Miraflores with its central park, "Parque del Amor" and ocean views.

Day 11: Transfer to airport.

PUNO - LA PAZ BY BUS (VISITING TIWANAKU)

Daily Departures (03 days / 02 nights in La Paz)

Day 1: Trip to La Paz in private vehicle with guide. Visit on the way the Fertility Temple in Chucuito, and the towns of Juli and Pomata which are famous for their beautiful churches. Cross the Bolivian border and continue to the Ruins of Tiwanaku, one of the most ancient civilizations in the Americas. Among magnificent examples of sculptured granite are the Akapana Pyramid, the Kalasasaya Temple, the Sun Gate and mysterious monoliths. Lunch included. Late afternoon, arrival at the hotel in La Paz.

Day 2: Morning city tour including: the witch doctor market, San Francisco church, the typical handicrafts of the Sagarnaga street and Plaza Murillo - where the Cathedral, Government Palace and the National Congress are located. Then, visit the famous Jaen street where interesting museums are clustered together, and the site where a replica of the semi-underground temple of the Tiwanaku culture can be admired. The tour continues to the residential areas and ends with a visit to the famous Valley of the Moon, a natural wonder.

Day 3: Transfer to airport.



La Paz

If you plan to visit Puno and Lake Titicaca, you must take the time to visit La Paz.

The highest capital city in the world, it lies in a steep canyon at 3,636 MASL.

This is a city of contrast where different people and cultures blend together into a harmonic melting pot.

La Paz is the gateway to Bolivian Wonders such as the Uyuni Salt Flats and the pre-Inca culture of Tiwanaku.

Suggested Hotels



Presidente ****

Surrounded by history, art and culture such as Murillo's Museum, the San Francisco Church and the artisan market, where you can find native handicrafts galore. Only steps away from the political, financial and commercial centre, where you will find the Governmental Palace, Ministries-Public offices, banks and the old and modern shopping area.



Real Plaza Hotel & Convention Centre ****

Located in the heart of the city of La Paz, close to government offices, banks museums and all the political and economic activity of the city, has personalized service and facilities for business and leisure travellers.



Europa ****

Located in the business and commercial centre of La Paz, this is an elegant and modern hotel which features an array of facilities to suit the needs of all guests. Le Gourmet restaurant provides a peaceful retreat where guests can enjoy an international menu, alternatively, the Euro cafe Bistro offers a more informal service. In the evenings, live piano music and cocktails in the Lobby bar create a warm and welcoming atmosphere.



Suites Camino Real *****

This fantastic property is in the heart of the residential and commercial region in La Paz. With a perfect balance of modernity, luxury and comfort offering a restaurant service, business centre, spa, health club, meeting rooms and much more. The location and warm service provided make this an ideal location for quick acclimatization and to rest.

Optional Tours

TIWANAKU RUINS

Daily 08:00 or 13:00

Visit the Ruins of Tiwanaku, one of the most ancient civilizations in the Americas. Among magnificent examples of sculptured granite are the Akapana Pyramid, the Kalasasaya Temple, the Sun Gate and mysterious monoliths.

ZONGO LAGOON AND VALLEY

Best months: April to October / Daily 08:00

Departure to Zongo, located at the foot of the spectacular peak of Huayna Potosí, where the hydroelectric station is located. Pass through the mining village of Milluni and several lagoons that provide La Paz with its drinking water. The huge glaciers are impressive, so is the valley's vegetation which changes constantly as you go downhill. View a wide variety of orchids, gushing waterfalls, crystal clear creeks and ice-covered summits. Box lunch included.

YUNGAS

Best months: April to October / Daily 08:00

Drive through Bolivia's diverse scenery for nearly 3 hours, descending gradually from the glacier's line to a subtropical region - where rolling hills are covered with variegated tropical vegetation. Lunch included.

SUCRE / POTOSI / UYUNI SALT PLAINS

Mon / Wed / Fri / Sun (05 days / 04 nights)

Day 1: Transfer to airport. Flight to Sucre. Upon arrival, transfer to the hotel. In the afternoon, tour through Sucre's main attractions: "Casa de la Libertad", La Recoleta Convent, the churches of San Lazaro and Santo Domingo, the Convent of San Felipe Neri and the Bolivar Park.

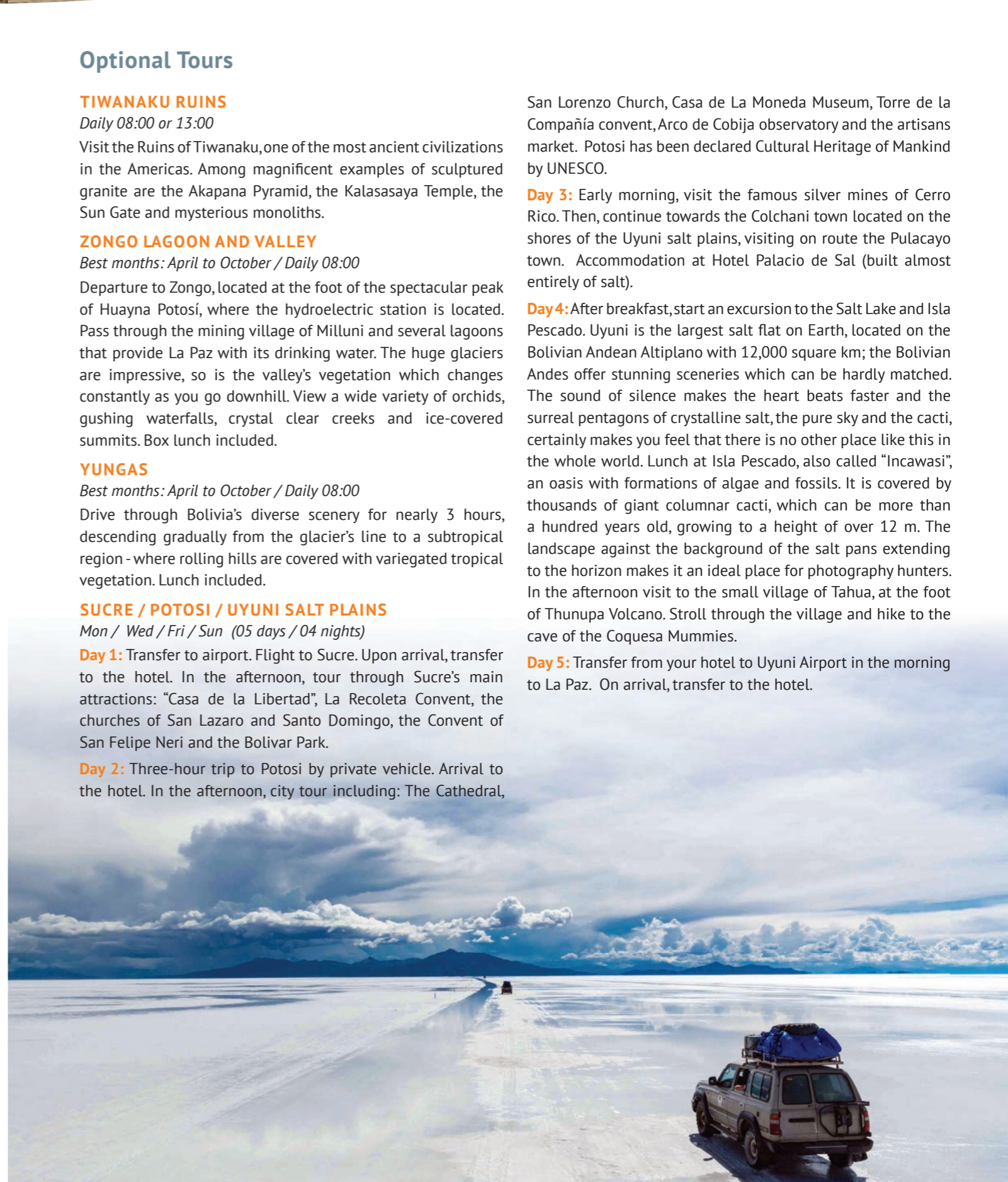
Day 2: Three-hour trip to Potosi by private vehicle. Arrival to the hotel. In the afternoon, city tour including: The Cathedral,

San Lorenzo Church, Casa de La Moneda Museum, Torre de la Compañía convent, Arco de Cobija observatory and the artisans market. Potosi has been declared Cultural Heritage of Mankind by UNESCO.

Day 3: Early morning, visit the famous silver mines of Cerro Rico. Then, continue towards the Colchani town located on the shores of the Uyuni salt plains, visiting on route the Pulacayo town. Accommodation at Hotel Palacio de Sal (built almost entirely of salt).

Day 4: After breakfast, start an excursion to the Salt Lake and Isla Pescado. Uyuni is the largest salt flat on Earth, located on the Bolivian Andean Altiplano with 12,000 square km; the Bolivian Andes offer stunning sceneries which can be hardly matched. The sound of silence makes the heart beats faster and the surreal pentagons of crystalline salt, the pure sky and the cacti, certainly makes you feel that there is no other place like this in the whole world. Lunch at Isla Pescado, also called "Incawasi", an oasis with formations of algae and fossils. It is covered by thousands of giant columnar cacti, which can be more than a hundred years old, growing to a height of over 12 m. The landscape against the background of the salt pans extending to the horizon makes it an ideal place for photography hunters. In the afternoon visit to the small village of Tuhua, at the foot of Thunupa Volcano. Stroll through the village and hike to the cave of the Coquesa Mummies.

Day 5: Transfer from your hotel to Uyuni Airport in the morning to La Paz. On arrival, transfer to the hotel.



Nazca

A town in Peru's Southern Coast Region; most famous for the Nazca Lines; a mix of long lines, geometrical figures and giant drawings in the desert sand designed by artists wanting to show their devotion to the sun, moon and stars.

This is the site where the ancient Nazca civilization was based after the fall of its first capital, Cahuachi, in around 400 AD. It has an exotic, dusty, desert setting but holds little enchantment in itself. It can provide between a few hours' and a few days' entertainment depending on one's interest in the ancient Nazca people.

Suggested Hotels



Hotel Nazca Lines***

Guests can relax on the sun loungers by the pool or enjoy themselves reading a book at Maria Reiche reading room, the room where Dr. Reiche delivered her lectures on the Nazca Lines

This property has a swimming pool and a restaurant; Hotel Nazca Lines offers rooms with free Wi-Fi and air conditioning in Nazca. Breakfast is provided. The Main Square is 300 metres away.

Decorated with wooden furnishing and tiled floors, rooms at Nazca Lines feature cable TV.



Casa Andina Standard Nasca****

This is another practical, safe and functional property by the Casa Andina chain, located just a few blocks from the Main Square of Nazca. Its coastal design with rustic, homely touches include terraces with tall palm trees and leafy plants that give the hotel a tropical feel.



Hotel Majoro***

At Majoro, we are certain that you will spend unforgettable relaxing moments surrounded by 30 hectares of nature, allowing you the peacefulness to meditate over the wonders left by the Nazca culture to all mankind.

Suggested Excursions and Programmes

PISCO / NAZCA LINES / PARACAS

02 days / 01 night in Paracas

Day 1: Transfer to the bus station. Departure to Paracas, located 257 kilometres (260 miles) south of Lima, along the Pan American Highway. Arrival and transfer to Pisco airport for a 1 hour 30 minute flight over the mysterious Nazca Lines – where huge birds, animals, geometrical lines resembling a landing field and other markings can be seen. Accommodation in Paracas.

**Flight time over the Nazca Lines: 30 minutes.*

Day 2: In the morning, boat excursion to the Ballestas Islands inhabited by thousands of guano birds and sea lions. On the way, view the Paracas' gigantic candelabra on the cliff overlooking the bay. In the afternoon, departure by bus to Lima. Transfer to the hotel.

ICA / NAZCA LINES / PARACAS

03 days / 02 nights

Day 1: Transfer to bus station for departure to Ica, which is located 300 km (186 miles) south of Lima and is Peru's main grape-growing region. After arriving at Las Dunas Sun Resort Hotel, transfer to the airfield for a 1 hour flight over the mysterious Nazca Lines – where huge birds, animals, geometrical lines resembling a landing field and other markings can be seen.

Day 2: In the morning, visit the Huacachina Lagoon, an oasis in the dunes, and the Ica regional museum with its fascinating collection of mummies, pottery, and textiles from Paracas and Nazca cultures. Continue with a visit to a wine cellar. In the afternoon, an unforgettable and exciting adventure in the Ica desert. Ride in tubular dune buggies up and down dunes from 20 to 80 m high, and do sand boarding to test your abilities. Afterwards, departure by private vehicle to Paracas. Arrival and hotel accommodation.

Day 3: In the morning, boat excursion to the Ballestas Islands inhabited by thousands of guano birds and sea lions. On the way, view the Paracas' gigantic candelabra on the cliff overlooking the bay. In the afternoon, return to Lima by bus. Transfer to the hotel.

NAZCA LINES – PARACAS

03 days / 02 nights

Day 1: Departure by private vehicle to Nazca, located 448 km (278 miles) south of Lima, along the Panamerican Highway. On the way, visit the Huacachina Lagoon, an oasis in the dunes, and the Ica regional museum with its fascinating collection of mummies, pottery, and textiles from Paracas and Nazca

cultures. Also, visit a wine cellar. Accommodation in Nazca.

Day 2: Transfer to the local airport for a 35 minute flight over the mysterious Nazca Lines – where huge birds, animals, geometrical lines resembling a landing field and other markings can be seen. Continue to the important Cahuachi ceremonial Centre (200 BC -500 BC), where an impressive pyramid (30 ft high) dominated the ancient city. Afterwards, visit the Antonini museum, which hosts an important collection of mummies, ceramics and textiles from the Nazca culture. Afternoon trip to the hotel in Paracas.

Day 3: In the morning, boat excursion to the Ballestas Islands inhabited by thousands of guano birds and sea lions. On the way, view the Paracas' gigantic candelabra on the cliff overlooking the bay. In the afternoon, return to Lima visiting on route Tambo Colorado, an Inca administrative centre.

NAZCA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE AND MYSTERIOUS LINES

03 days / 02 nights

Day 1: Transfer to the bus station for departure to Nazca, which is located 448 km (278 miles) south of Lima. On arrival, transfer to the hotel.

Day 2: Morning transfer to the local airport for a 35 minute flight over the mysterious Nazca Lines – where huge birds, animals, geometrical lines resembling a landing field and other markings can be seen. Then, visit the important Cahuachi ceremonial centre (200 BC - 500 AD), where an impressive pyramid (30 ft high) dominated the ancient city. The tour ends with a visit of the Antonini museum, which hosts an important collection of mummies, ceramics and textiles from the Nazca culture. In the afternoon, visit the Nazca spiral-shaped aqueducts, a complex hydraulic system that gives evidence of the high technological development and inventiveness achieved by the Nazca people. Afterwards, stop at Paredones, an Inca administrative centre which was linked to Cuzco via the Inca trails.

Day 3: A morning tour begins with a visit to the Chauchilla cemetery, which testifies the way the Nazca people buried their ancestors. Afterwards, visit an artisan goldsmith shop and a ceramics workshop. Afternoon bus trip to Lima. On arrival, transfer to the hotel.

Optional: Punta San Fernando

Hill, desert and ocean ecosystems converge creating a wonderful oasis of life, a spectacular natural refuge in the Peruvian coast. Spot one of the most important colonies of Humbolt penguins, crowds of seals and, with luck, herds of guanacos. The main attraction of this place is the presence of Andean condors. Box lunch included.

**This optional tour requires an additional night in Nazca.*

Iquitos

This city stands on the west bank of the Amazon River. This jungle city's first economic boom came from the rubber exploitation in the late 19th and 20th centuries. The legacy from the rubber era can still be appreciated in the architecture of the city and its elegant mansions among the extravagant Iron House, designed by Eiffel.

Iquitos is the main access to the biosphere reserves which are sources for scientific research and eco-tourism development.

Suggested Hotels



El Dorado***

El Dorado is located 1 block from Iquitos' main square and historic Cathedral. Guests can enjoy drinks by the swimming pool and free Wi-Fi in the common areas.

All the rooms at El Dorado Isabel Hotel & Suites have air conditioning, cable TV and spacious bathrooms. Some of them feature a spa bath and a seating area with a view.

Guests can start the day with a full buffet breakfast at the main restaurant. There is also a bar for light meals and snacks, and room service is available.

El Dorado offers 24 hour front desk assistance and the staff is ready to help with flight and tourist information. Francisco Tejada Airport sits 7.5 miles away.



DoubleTree by Hilton*****

With its impressive solid glass and concrete architecture, Doubletree by Hilton Iquitos is located in downtown Iquitos. Guests can enjoy the indoor swimming pool, gym and fine international cuisine.

Rooms at Doubletree by Hilton Iquitos have flowery upholsteries and carpeted floors. All are equipped with air conditioning, cable TV and a minibar. Free Wi-Fi is provided throughout the hotel.

The Manoa Café Restaurant serves a daily buffet with grill specialities. Guests can also enjoy classical cocktails and fine wines at the bar.

Doubletree by Hilton Iquitos is 13 minutes from Coronel FAP Francisco Secada Vignetta Airport. Free parking and a car rental service is available.



Casa Morey****

Boasting an outdoor swimming pool right across from Itaya River, Casa Morey offers spacious rooms with chic décor and free Wi-Fi in Iquitos. A daily buffet breakfast is served.

Casa Morey has rooms with air conditioning, cable TV and private bathrooms with 24 hour hot water. Some rooms feature private balconies with views of the garden or the city.

Jirón Próspero, the commercial area of the town is 3 blocks away, as is the Amazonian Museum and main square.

There is 24 hour room service.

International Airport Coronel FAP Francisco Secada Vignetta is 12.4 miles away. Private parking is free.



Epoca****

Offering views of the Amazon river, Epoca offers accommodation in a large house built in 1902 and declared Peruvian cultural heritage in Iquitos. The property is 450 yards from Iquitos' main square. Epoca features free WiFi and a terrace.

All rooms are equipped with a flat-screen TV with cable channels and a private bathroom fitted with a bath and shower. Some rooms include a seating area to relax in after a busy day. Guests can enjoy the on-site bar. You will find a 24 hour front desk at the property.

Santa Teresa is 16.2 miles from Epoca, while Santo Tomas is 7.5 miles away. Francisco Secada Vignetta International Airport is 4.3 miles from the property.

Suggested Programmes

ARIA AMAZON

Low Water Itineraries (June-October) / High Water Itineraries (November-May)

In 2015, the Aria Amazon, which first set sail in 2011, was completely refreshed with new upgrades from bed linens to state of the art lighting. The 45 m (147 ft) long Aria was designed by the innovative Peruvian architect Jordi Puig. Extremely generous dining and lounging areas include an outdoor river facing Jacuzzi. Floor to ceiling windows face the Amazon River in the ship's 16 Design Suites, each measuring 23 m² (250 ft²). Four suites can interconnect for families. Upgrades to the spa include new decor for enhanced relaxation. This striking black hulled ship accommodates a maximum of 32 guests plus 26 crew including a paramedic and four English-speaking naturalist guides. Aqua Expeditions highly experienced river pilots and the most rigorous cruise ship standards ensure smooth travel and safety on the waters of the Peruvian Amazon.

DISCOVERY CRUISE – 03 Nights

Aqua Expedition's 3 night Amazon River luxury cruise on the *Aria Amazon* begins in the remote colonial city of Iquitos (IQT), Peru and transports guests in exceptional comfort deep into the Amazon rainforest, along the Marañon River, the Amazon's largest tributary, as well as other neighbouring rivers (the Yarapa and Yanayacu-Pucate), each one rich in vibrant wildlife and thriving rainforests.

Go fishing for the many species of Amazon fish, explore into the dense jungle on foot in search of three-toed sloths, toucans, macaws then come back to the comfort of our skiffs to meet taricaya turtles in their natural habitat and hunt for endangered pink dolphins, unique to the Amazon, at play. As the *Aria Amazon* journeys towards the union of the Ucayali and the Marañon Rivers, considered the birthplace of the Amazon, learn from our experienced, English speaking naturalist guides about the diverse Amazon wildlife and birds of the Pacaya-Samiria National Reserve.

Day 1: Friday**IQUITOS - NAUTA - EMBARKATION - MARAÑON RIVER**

We will meet at Iquitos International Airport then journey together by air-conditioned vehicle through the Peruvian countryside to arrive at our Nauta Lounge in time for lunch, or we will serve a box lunch en route depending on the flight arrival time. In the afternoon, we will set off on your first skiff excursion to visit the birthplace of the Amazon. At 18:00 hrs we will board the *ARIA AMAZON*. Settle into your generously proportioned suite as you begin one of life's greatest adventures. Following a routine safety drill and introduction to our naturalist guides, we gather for innovative Amazonian cuisine created by our Executive Chef Pedro Miguel Schiaffino, whose restaurant, Malabar, is the one of Lima's top ranked dining experiences.

Day 2: Saturday**YANAYACU PUCATE RIVER - MARAÑON RIVER**

We commence today's adventures near the main entrance of Pacaya Samiria National Reserve, cruising along Yanayacu Pucate in the comfort of our state-of-the-art skiffs. Kayak, canoe

and swim in these unspoiled black waters, keeping eyes peeled for the Amazon's legendary pink dolphins. In the afternoon, we will visit a remote village along the Marañon River to learn about traditional customs. Focus our hi-tech telescope on the night sky to identify the planets and constellations.

Day 3: Sunday**SAMIRIA RIVER - NAUTA CAÑO OR PNA (AMAZONIAN NATURAL PARK)**

We set off by skiffs for an excursion along the Samiria River with optional fishing. Listen carefully to our after-lunch flora and fauna lecture, then venture out for a singularly thrilling jungle walk across suspended bridges deep into the high Amazon rainforest. On our return in the evening, enjoy the jungle symphony and extraordinary stargazing on local boats along the "Enchanted Lake". This evening before dinner, we will gather to introduce you to some of the crew members whom you may not have met, working "behind the scenes" to ensure your countless exceptional experiences aboard the *Aria Amazon*.

Day 4: Monday**NAUTA TOWN - MANATEE RESCUE CENTRE - TRANSFER TO THE AIRPORT**

This morning, we will visit the local fresh market with your guides who can identify the day's catch by the fishermen of Amazonia and the region's exotic fruits. Return to the *ARIA* for breakfast and to pack up. Before saying goodbye, we visit the Manatee Rescue Centre, a kind of animal orphanage for Amazonian manatees to rescue, rehabilitate and release them back into the wild. We will also visit San Juan craft market on route to the airport. Lunch or box lunch will be provided, depending on the exact departure flight time, which may vary. Other local activities may be included as well, according to the flight schedule.

EXPLORER CRUISE – 04 Nights

Aqua Expedition's 4 night luxury cruise on the *Aria Amazon* begins in the remote colonial city of Iquitos (IQT), Peru and transport guests in exceptional comfort deep into the Amazon rainforest, along the Ucayali River, the Amazon's largest tributary, as well as the four other rivers, each one rich in vibrant wildlife with thriving rainforests. Go piranha fishing, trek into the dense jungle in search of Amazon monkeys, three-toed sloths, crown headed hoatzin birds, toucans, macaws and giant water lilies.

Come back to the comfort of our skiffs to cruise up close to view Taricaya turtles and spectacled caimans in their natural habitat while pink dolphins, at play, challenge your photography skills. As the *Aria Amazon* journeys towards the confluence of the Ucayali and the Marañon Rivers, considered the birthplace of the Amazon, learn from our experienced, English speaking naturalist guides about the diverse Amazon wildlife and birds of Pacaya-Samiria National Reserve.

Day 1: Monday**IQUITOS - NAUTA - EMBARKATION - MARAÑON RIVER**

We will meet at Iquitos International Airport then journey together by air-conditioned vehicle through the Peruvian countryside to arrive at our Nauta Lounge in time for lunch, or we will serve a box lunch en route depending on the flight arrival time. In the afternoon, we will set off on your first skiff excursion to visit the birthplace of the Amazon. At 18:00 hrs, we will board the *Aria Amazon*. Settle into your generously proportioned suite as you begin one of life's greatest adventures. Following a routine safety drill and introduction to our naturalist guides, we gather for innovative Amazonian cuisine created by our Executive Chef Pedro Miguel Schiaffino, whose restaurant, Malabar, is the one of Lima's top ranked dining experiences.

Day 2: Tuesday**UCAYALI RIVER - PACAYA RIVER**

Boarding our skiffs, we start the day like Amazon River dwellers, cruising along the Ucayali River. As these farmers and fishermen go about their business, we search for pink river dolphins in these pristine waters. Later in the day, we return to the skiffs, to ride along the black waters of the Pacaya River at dusk, searching for the mysterious wildlife that come out after dark and with extraordinary stargazing.

Day 3: Wednesday**PACAYA RIVER - UCAYALI RIVER - TAPICHE RIVER**

The rewards of our early start today are plentiful, including a breakfast picnic accompanied by jungle symphony and fishing along the black waters of the Pacaya River. After lunch, we venture out by skiffs on the Ucayali River alongside the banana boats transporting jungle products to the port of Requena, keeping an eye out for pink river dolphins.

Day 4: Thursday**CLAVERO LAKE - SAN JOSE FLOODED FOREST**

Choose to go jungle walking, canoeing, kayaking or swimming on the black water Yarapa or Clavero River in the morning. Come afternoon, take a short jungle walk in the San Jose flooded forest and see the unforgettable giant water lilies. This evening before dinner, we will gather to introduce you to some of the crew members whom you may not have met, working "behind the scenes" to ensure your countless exceptional experiences aboard the *Aria Amazon*.

Day 5: Friday**ARRIVAL IN NAUTA - MANATEE RESCUE CENTRE - TRANSFER TO THE AIRPORT**

This morning, we will visit the local fresh market with your guides who can identify the day's catch by the fishermen of Amazonia and the region's exotic fruits. Return to the *ARIA* for breakfast and to pack up. Before saying goodbye, we visit the Manatee Rescue Centre, a kind of animal orphanage for Amazonian manatees to

rescue, rehabilitate and release them back into the wild. We will also visit San Juan craft market on route to the airport. Lunch or box lunch is included, depending on the exact departure flight time, which can vary. Other activities may be included as well, according to the flight schedule.

EXPEDITION CRUISE – 07 Nights

We highly recommend our 7 night Amazon River Expedition Cruise on the *Aria Amazon* where you may experience our most luxurious and comprehensive Amazon journey among the Amazon River's two powerful tributaries: the Marañon and the Ucayali, as well as several hidden black water lakes.

Kayak, canoe and swim in these unspoiled black waters, keeping eyes peeled for the Amazon's legendary pink dolphins. Be witness of one of the great spectacles of the Southern Hemisphere, the birth of the Amazon River. Take a short jungle walk in the San Jose flooded forest and see the unforgettable giant water lilies. Enjoy a breakfast picnic accompanied by jungle symphony and fishing along the black waters of the Pacaya River.

Day 1: Friday**IQUITOS - NAUTA - EMBARKATION - MARAÑON RIVER**

We will meet at Iquitos International Airport then journey together by air-conditioned vehicle through the Peruvian countryside to arrive at our Nauta Lounge in time for lunch, or we will serve a box lunch en route depending on the flight arrival time. In the afternoon, we will set off on your first skiff excursion along the Marañon River. At 18:00 hrs, we will board the *Aria Amazon*. Settle into your generously proportioned suite as you begin one of life's greatest adventures. Following a routine safety drill and introduction to our naturalist guides, we gather for innovative Amazonian cuisine created by our Executive Chef Pedro Miguel Schiaffino, whose restaurant, Malabar, is the one of Lima's top ranked dining experiences.

Day 2: Saturday**YANAYACU PUCATE RIVER - MARAÑON RIVER**

We commence today's adventures near the main entrance of Pacaya Samiria National Reserve, cruising along Yanayacu Pucate in the comfort of our state-of-the-art skiffs. Kayak, canoe and swim in these unspoiled black waters, keeping eyes peeled for the Amazon's legendary pink dolphins. In the afternoon, we will visit a remote village along the Marañon River to learn about traditional customs. Focus our hi-tech telescope on the night sky to identify the planets and constellations.

Day 3: Sunday**SAMIRIA RIVER - NAUTA CAÑO OR PNA (AMAZONIAN NATURAL PARK)**

We set off by skiffs for an excursion along the Samiria River with optional fishing. Listen carefully to our after lunch flora and fauna lecture, then venture out for a singularly thrilling





jungle walk across suspended bridges deep into the high Amazon rainforest. On our return in the evening, enjoy the jungle symphony and extraordinary stargazing on local boats along the "Enchanted Lake".

Day 4: Monday

NAUTA TOWN - VILLAGE VISIT - BIRTHPLACE OF THE AMAZON
This morning, we will visit the local fresh market with your guides who can identify the day's catch by the fishermen of Amazonia and the region's exotic fruits. In the afternoon, together we will witness one of the great spectacles of the Southern Hemisphere, the birthplace of the Amazon River. Tonight you will meet the new passengers who have signed on for the four-night trip, as we start our journey together along the Marañon River.

Day 5: Tuesday

UCAYALI RIVER - PACAYA RIVER

Boarding our skiffs, we start the day like Amazon River dwellers, cruising along the Ucayali River. As these farmers and fishermen go about their business, we search for pink river dolphins in these pristine waters. Later in the day, we return to the skiffs, to ride along the black waters of the Pacaya River at dusk, searching for the mysterious wildlife that come out after dark.

Day 6: Wednesday

PACAYA RIVER - UCAYALI RIVER - TAPICHE RIVER

The rewards of our early start today are plentiful, including a breakfast picnic accompanied by jungle symphony and fishing along the black waters of the Pacaya River. After lunch, we venture out by skiffs on the Ucayali River alongside the banana boats transporting jungle products to the port of Requena, keeping an eye out for pink river dolphins.

Day 7: Thursday

CLAVERO LAKE - SAN JOSE FLOODED FOREST

Choose to go jungle walking, canoeing, kayaking or swimming on the black water Yarapa or Clavero River in the morning. Come afternoon, take a short jungle walk in the San Jose flooded forest and see the unforgettable giant water lilies. This evening before dinner, we will gather to introduce you to some of the crew members whom you may not have met, working "behind the scenes" to ensure your countless exceptional experiences aboard the *Aria Amazon*.

Day 8: Friday

ARRIVAL IN NAUTA - MANATEE RESCUE CENTRE - TRANSFER TO THE AIRPORT

We will visit the town of Nauta, founded in 1930. Today, villagers from around Amazonia gather here to sell the products they harvest in their rural communities. Together we will walk around Nauta to gain insights into the daily life of these remote people. Return to the ARIA for breakfast and to pack up. Before

saying goodbye, we will visit the Manatee Rescue Centre, a kind of animal orphanage for Amazonian manatees to rescue, rehabilitate and release them back into the wild. We will also visit San Juan craft market on route to the airport. Lunch or box lunch will be provided, depending on the exact departure flight time, which may vary. Other local activities may be included as well, according to the flight schedule.

****Note: The itinerary are for reference only. It is subject to change, due to weather, time of the year and other conditions****

DELFIN II IQUITOS / NAUTA / PACAYA SAMIRIA / NAUTA / IQUITOS

(04 days / 03 nights) Best months: Jun-Nov / Departs: Sundays

Day 1: Arrival at Iquitos airport. Transfer to Nauta dock to board the *MV DELFIN II*.

Day 2: Visit the community of Yanallpa. There, explore two different kinds of ecosystems: flooded forest and "terra firme" forest. The morning hike affords excellent opportunities for spotting transitional species such as the snail kite, black-tailed ant bird, manikins, tanagers, hummingbirds, woodpeckers, nun birds, orioles and blackbirds. Also, see tall trees filled with epiphytes, woody vines and many varieties of palm trees. Reach a lovely lagoon which is filled with endangered and unique fresh water fish, such as the "paiche", the largest in the Amazon basin. Continue exploring the surrounding wildlife, a good chance of spotting the smallest monkey in the world, the pygmy marmoset. In the afternoon, head for the El Dorado River, a spectacular spot within the Pacaya-Samiria Reserve. Enjoy an unforgettable encounter with gray and pink river dolphins, a unique opportunity to swim among them.

Day 3: Skiff excursion to see the Pacaya River, located at the very heart of the Pacaya-Samiria National Reserve, by far the largest protected wetland reserve in the world. Early rise to see parrots, macaws, toucans, kingfishers, black-collar hawks, white-winged swallows and troops of squirrel and howler monkeys. At midday, start navigating down the Puinahua River towards Nauta. In the afternoon, hike through Atun Poza, a pristine and unique ecosystem, passing through a typical tropical rainforest with emergent trees and canopy trees, such as the giant ceiba or kapok tree.

Day 4: On board a skiff stop at the village of Puerto Miguel to meet with local villagers and see how they live. Later, explore the Yarapa River, where monkeys, herons, egrets and green iguanas may be seen. Afterwards, reach the beautiful Uvos lagoon, where pink dolphins search for fish. Abundant flora includes a variety of bromelias and orchids. Continue navigating downstream to Nauta. Transfer to Iquitos airport.



CEIBA TOPS 03 days / 02 nights

Day 1:

On arrival at the airport, transfer to Explorama dock. Boat trip down the Amazon River to Ceiba Tops lodge. Afternoon hike across the beautiful primary rainforest reserve surrounding the lodge.

Day 2:

Morning boat ride spotting for dolphins. Visit a small village inhabited by Yagua Indians to learn about their culture and traditions. Enjoy a demonstration on the use of blowguns for hunting. Afternoon walk to the neighbouring town of Indiana.

Day 3:

Choose from a morning walk or a boat excursion to further enjoy the rainforest and the Amazon River. Return to Iquitos and transfer to airport.

MUYUNA LODGE 4 days / 3 nights

Day 1:

On arrival at the airport, transfer to the harbour. Take a 3 hour journey up river on the Amazon to the Muyuna lodge. In the afternoon, canoe ride or walk to the "Pungal," the favourite place of Hoatzin birds that look like pre-historic birds. Fish in the Sapote Lake, where different species of piranhas and sardines are found. At night, look for black and white caimans (jungle alligators).

Day 2:

Morning hike (around 7 hours) to observe the rich flora, including the giant Ceiba or Kapok Tree, Taste the *Uncaria tomentosa* water, said to cure aids and cancer. Pygmy marmosets, the smallest monkey in the world, a wide variety of birds, and colourful butterflies may be sighted. In the afternoon, look for piranhas and silver hatched fish at the Purura Lake. Nocturnal hiking to the strangle tree, home to many tarantula species.

Day 3:

Canoe excursion to Juanachi Lake, following a difficult route because of the abundance of aquatic plants. Parrots, macaws, toucans, egrets, hawks, ducks and other birds, as well as sloths and a variety of monkeys can be spotted.

Day 4:

Early morning bird watching to view parrots, macaws, toucans, egrets, hawks and other birds. Later, boat excursion along the Amazon River, a true magical moment to view and listen to the Amazon pink dolphins. Search for the famous gigantic water lily, known as "Victoria Regia". Return to Iquitos and transfer to airport.

PACAYA SAMIRIA AMAZON LODGE 03 days / 02 nights

Day 1:

Arrival at Iquitos airport. Transfer to Nauta. Short boat trip to the confluence of the Ucayali and Marañon rivers, the birth place of the Amazon River. Have a spectacular sight of the forest from a high watching tower. Return boat trip up to the Pacaya Samiria Amazon Lodge. Afternoon walk along the primary rainforest trails to appreciate the varied flora and fauna.

Day 2:

At dawn, short hike through the forest to spot a wide variety of birds. Boat ride to the Pacaya Samiria National Reserve, known as the "Jungle of the mirrors" because of the black waters of its rivers that give the sensation of travelling between mirrors. Search for grey and pink dolphins down the Yanayacu River. Visit the Japon and Plantano lakes. Appreciate the beautiful landscape and a vast variety of palm trees. Canoe ride for piranha fishing and bird watching.

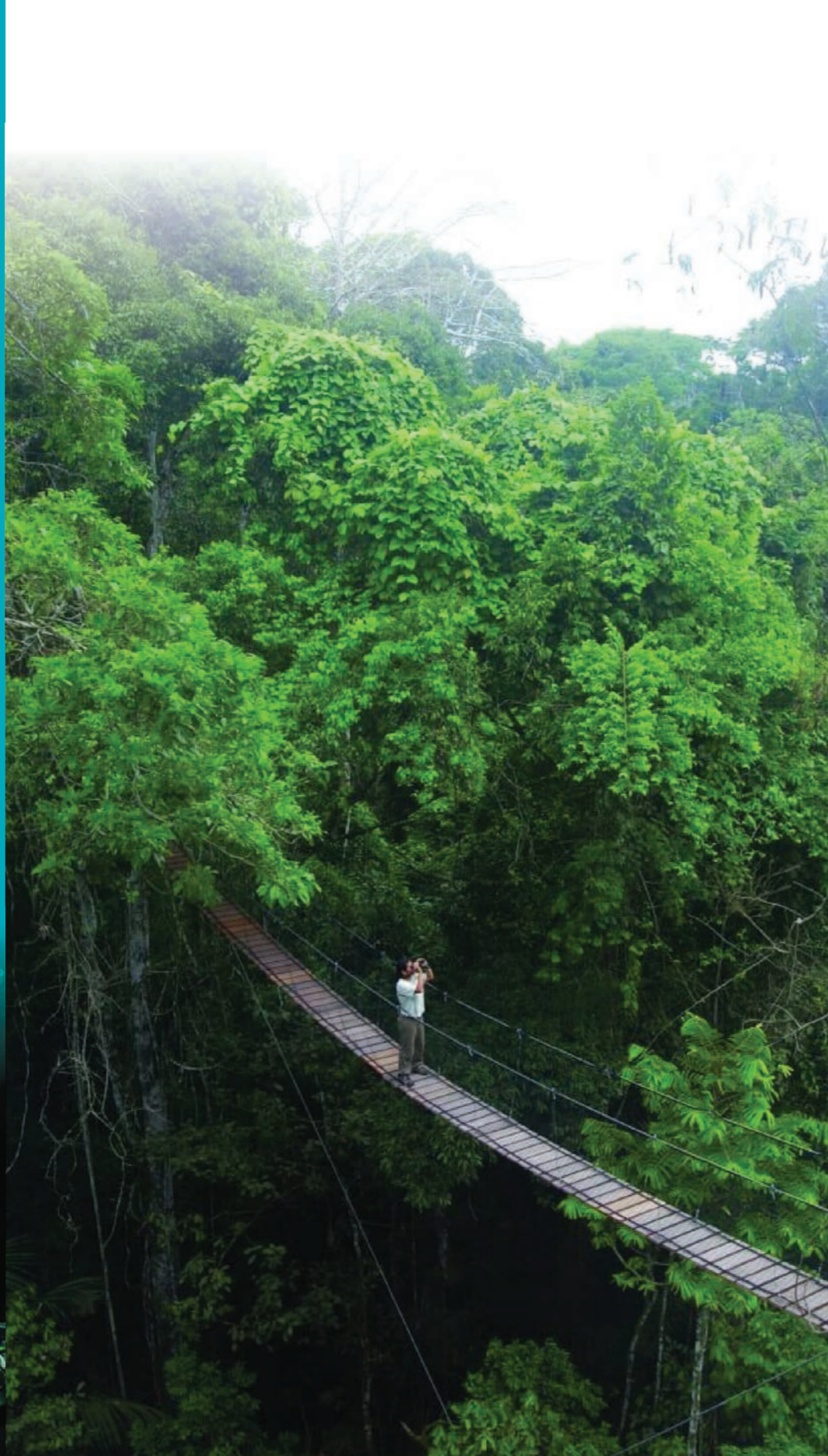
Day 3:

Visit a riverbank village to appreciate the daily life of the native people. Departure to Iquitos and transfer to the airport.



Puerto Maldonado

Two major rivers run and meet in this capital city of Madre de Dios. Puerto Maldonado provides easy access to the Tambopata National Reserve. The evergreen pristine rainforest with exotic plants, Mauritia palm swamps, oxbow lakes, an abundance of colourful birds, butterflies, dragonflies, alligators, giant otters, turtles, frogs, monkeys and other animals of the Peruvian Jungle await anyone who loves nature and wants to preserve it for future generations!



Suggested Programmes

PUERTO MALDONADO – SANDOVAL LAKE LODGE

03 days / 02 nights

Day 1: Reception at the airport in Puerto Maldonado and transfer to the Madre de Dios River dock. You'll be taken by motor canoe for 30 minutes down river to later enjoy a 2 mile walk through the rainforest. Later, board another canoe for a short ride on the canal until it opens up into the lake for a transfer by catamaran and cross over to the Sandoval Lake Lodge. Set off to explore by catamaran the entire west end of the lake. Later, sit back and relax to the sound of hundreds of Red-Bellied Macaws on their return for the night. Take a canoe ride to look for the rare Black Caimans (type of alligator).

Day 2: Early start today to be on the lake at sunrise. Hopefully, we will encounter Giant Otters, most active at this time of the day. Many fish-eating birds can also be seen. A demonstration of how Brazil Nuts are collected, opened and commercialised. In the afternoon, explore by catamaran the eastern part of the lake. Spot various species of monkeys, such as the Brown Capuchin. In the evening, search for Black Caimans or take a short walk in the primary forest.

Day 3: Final try to catch a glimpse of the Giant Otters. Return to Puerto Maldonado and transfer to the airport.

PUERTO MALDONADO – POSADA AMAZONAS

03 days / 02 nights

Day 1: Upon arrival, reception and transfer to Rainforest Expeditions office. Afterwards, a 45 minute trip to Infierno by road, followed by 45 minute motor-boat trip into the Community's Primary Forest Private Reserve. Arrive to Posada Amazonas. Briefing about the lodge. A 20 minute walk to the 30 metre scaffolding canopy tower to get spectacular views of the river and surrounding forest. Excellent opportunity to observe birds including parrots, toucans and macaws. Box lunch and dinner included.

Day 2: Take a 30 minute boat ride and a 45 minute hike in direction to Tres Chimbadas oxbow lake. Once there, paddle around the lake on a catamaran, in search for the resident family of giant otters, and other lakeside wildlife such as caimans and hoatzins. Take a 20 minute walk from the lodge to the clay lick, where you will see dozen of parrots and parakeets descending to ingest the clay. In the afternoon, visit the Ñape Ethnobotanical Centre. Hike through various trails while learning about the medical use of forest plants. Optional night walk to look for amphibians and insects.

Day 3: River and road trip back to Puerto Maldonado. Transfer to airport.

PUERTO MALDONADO JUNGLE EXTENSION FROM CUZCO

For nature lovers, we can offer this optional extension to the Inkaterra Reserva Amazonica in the Amazon Basin

Day 1: Transfer to Cuzco airport at the agreed time. Reception at Puerto Maldonado airport. Transfer to the Inkaterra butterfly farm, continuing to the river port for check-in. Depart in a motor dugout canoe to Inkaterra Reserva Amazónica, which is located 45 minutes down the Madre de Dios River. After lunch, free time to relax or take a siesta. Then, share a refreshing tea time and get ready for the afternoon excursion. Choose from a variety of excursions available at the Inkaterra lodge: A guided walk along the trail system into the Inkaterra Reserva Amazonica natural area to discover the Amazon Basin. This trail offers an excellent introduction to the forest environment, winding past impressive trees such as the Shihuahuaco and the uniquely beautiful strangler fig. It also offers excellent opportunities for bird watching and exotic insect observation; twilight river excursion; A guided afternoon boat ride on the Madre de Dios River to witness the Amazon's transformation from a diurnal to a nocturnal world, as animals and birds of the daytime give way to species specially adapted to the night. Learn about their habits, while you search for nightjars, owls, capybaras and big caimans.

Day 2: In the morning visit Lake Sandoval in the Tambopata National Reserve. Glide in a wooden canoe across a beautiful mirror-like oxbow lake that is home to the endangered Giant River Otter, as well as red howler monkeys, red-bellied macaws, anacondas, side-neck turtles and black caimans. Return to the lodge for lunch. In the afternoon, visit the Inkaterra canopy walkway and take the anaconda walk. Ascending the first tower, 29 m above the forest ground, begin your encounter with the tree top realm. Walk through the rainforest canopy on a suspension bridge network linking eight observation platforms. Be on the lookout for bright toucans, woodpeckers, trogons, monkeys and three-toed sloths. If you wish, you may extend your excursion and appreciate the sunset from one of the towers. Afterwards, experience the anaconda walk for about 30 minutes walking along the 200 metre wooden bridge over the Aguajales swamps. In this lush ecosystem, you may observe various species of amphibians, birds, mammals, abundant flora, trees and possibly the serpents of this flooded marshland.

Day 3: Enjoy a 45 minute boat trip to Gamitana Creek. Explore the rainforest along the banks of a winding, dark-water creek that is home to many piranha, caiman, turtles and birds. Board a canoe and navigate your way back downstream, appreciating the abundant flora and fauna. Return to Gamitana Farm for a picnic lunch. Followed by a short guided tour to see how local farmers raise fruits and vegetables. Return to the lodge. Afternoon at leisure.

Day 4: Reserva Amazonica / Puerto Maldonado / Lima
Buffet breakfast, return trip to Puerto Maldonado and transfer to the airport.

Sample Itineraries

Cuzco Special *Including mini Inca Trail to Machu Picchu*

Saturday	Falklands 15:00 Santiago 21:25
Sunday	Santiago 07:35 Lima 09:30 Lima 11:20 Cuzco 12:55
Friday	Cuzco 14:30 Lima 16:00 Lima 17:45 Santiago 23:20
Saturday	Santiago 07:30 Falklands 15:00

Saturday	Overnight in Santiago.
Sunday	Reception and transfer to your hotel. In the afternoon, tour of the city including the "Plaza de Armas", the Cathedral and Santo Domingo Church (Koricancha), followed by a visit of the surrounding ruins of Puka Pukara, Kenko, Tampu Machay and the renowned fortress and religious site of Sacsayhuaman, famous for its cosmic energy. Overnight in Cuzco.
Monday	After driving through a beautiful scenery, visit the village of Chinchero located 28 km (17 miles) from Cuzco. The main plaza and the nearby Inca ruins are some of its many attractions. Afterwards, visit Maras (salt mines of the Inca period still in use) and Moray (an experimental agricultural centre from the same period). Box lunch included. Overnight in the Sacred Valley.
Tuesday	Transfer to Ollantaytambo's station. Train will drop you off at km 104 where this trek to Machu Picchu begins. The hike is slow and easy. See the impressive Urubamba Canyon surrounded by snow-capped mountains and reach Wiñay Wayna Ruins. Box lunch included. Hike leads to Intipunku (Gate of the Sun) overlooking the majestic Machu Picchu. Overnight in Machu Picchu (at the base of the mountain).
Wednesday	Early morning: visit Machu Picchu and go through temples, observatories, water systems, dwellings, watchtowers, gardens and have some free time to explore on your own and ponder about the meaning and beauty of this magical place. Lunch at Belmond Machu Picchu Sanctuary Lodge. In the afternoon, departure to Ollantaytambo by train and transfer to the hotel. Overnight in the Sacred Valley.
Thursday	Explore Pisac: a large complex of religious temples, housing areas, agricultural terraces, cliff-hanging paths and astronomic observatories, followed by a visit to the village of Pisac to shop at the colourful Indian market. On the way back to Cuzco, stop at Awanakancha, a weaving project of Andean communities where you will see the four American camelidae (alpaca, llama, vicuña, and guanaco). Learn about their wool and the ancestral techniques of weaving them. Overnight in Cuzco.
Friday	Transfer to the airport. Overnight in Santiago.

Hotel Options

Santiago:

Hotel Holiday Inn

Located right in front of the terminal building, no transfer is required. Check-in time from 16:00 hours and check-out before 10:00 hours. This hotel is very strict on check-in and check-out times and will not look after luggage for you.

Diego de Almagro

Located approximately 5 minutes from the airport by a courtesy transfer bus. Check-in time from 14:00 hours and check-out before 12:00 hours. Generally, this hotel is fairly flexible with check-in and check-out times providing they have availability. If they can't let you have the room right away on arrival or provide a late check-out, they will look after your luggage for you anyhow.

Hilton Garden Inn

Located approximately 10 minutes from the airport by a courtesy transfer bus. Check-in time from 14:00 hours and check-out before 12:00 hours. Generally, this hotel is fairly flexible with check-in and check-out times providing they have availability. If they can't let you have the room right away on arrival or provide a late check-out, they will look after your luggage for you anyhow.

Peru:

Cuzco

Ruinas***

Novotel****

Sacred Valley

San Agustín Monasterio de la Recoleta***

Casa Andina Premium****

Machu Picchu

El Mapi by Inkaterra***

Inkaterra Machu Picchu Hotel****

Program Includes:

- Private transfers and tours as specified in Cuzco, Sacred Valley of the Incas and Machu Picchu with professional English speaking guides
- Accommodations in selected mentioned hotels including buffet breakfast
- Entrance fees to all tourist spots described in the itinerary
- Train tickets Ollantaytambo / km 104 and Machu Picchu / Ollantaytambo on Vistadome Class
- First-aid kit
- Entrance fee to the Inca Trail
- **Bus tickets:** Machu Picchu citadel / town on Day 3
- **Bus tickets:** Machu Picchu town / citadel / Machu Picchu town on Day 4
- **Lunch:** Day 4 and 5
- **Box lunch:** Day 2 and 3
- **Dinner:** Day 3

Packing List for the Mini Inca Trail

- A daypack
- Rain jacket
- Hiking boots
- Walking poles
- Cap and sunglasses
- Insect repellent
- Sun block
- Water
- Binoculars for bird watching enthusiasts
- Digital camera

Sample Itineraries

Cuzco & Machu Picchu Special

Saturday	Falklands 15:00 Santiago 21:25
Sunday	Santiago 07:35 Lima 09:30 Lima 11:20 Cuzco 12:55
Friday	Cuzco 14:30 Lima 16:00 Lima 17:45 Santiago 23:20
Saturday	Santiago 07:30 Falklands 15:00

Saturday	Overnight in Santiago.
Sunday	Reception and transfer to the hotel. In the afternoon, tour of the city including the "Plaza de Armas", the Cathedral and Santo Domingo Church (Koricancha), followed by a visit of the surrounding ruins of Puka Pukara, Kenko, Tampu Machay, and the renowned fortress and religious site of Sacsayhuaman, famous for its cosmic energy. Overnight in Cuzco.
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Tuesday	Transfer to Ollantaytambo's station. A scenic, 1 hour 30 minute train trip through the Urubamba Valley, followed by a 30 minute bus ride up to the breathtaking Lost City of the Incas, Machu Picchu, one of the Seven Wonders of the World. Guided tour through the ruins. After lunch at Belmond Machu Picchu Sanctuary Lodge, free afternoon to explore the ruins. Overnight in Machu Picchu (at the base of the mountain).
Wednesday	Morning at leisure to visit and enjoy the ancient citadel on your own. In the afternoon, departure to Ollantaytambo by train and transfer to the hotel. Overnight in the Sacred Valley.
Thursday	Visit the town and fortress of Ollantaytambo, the last living Inca town. Lunch at Tunupa del Valle Restaurant in Urubamba. Afterwards, drive up and hike to the splendid Inca ruins of Pisac at 3,250 m (10,654 ft), a large complex of religious temples, housing areas, agricultural terraces, cliff-hanging paths and astronomic observatories, followed by a visit to the village of Pisac to shop at the colourful Indian market. On the way back to Cuzco, stop at Awanakancha, a weaving project of Andean communities where you will see the four American camelidae (alpaca, llama, vicuña, guanaco). Learn about their wool and the ancestral techniques of weaving them. Overnight in Cuzco.
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Peru:

Cuzco

Ruinas***

Novotel****

Sacred Valley

San Agustín Monasterio de la Recoleta***

Casa Andina Collection****

Machu Picchu

El Mapi by Inkaterra***

Inkaterra Machu Picchu Hotel****

Program Includes:

- Private transfers and tours as specified in Cuzco, Sacred Valley of the Incas and Machu Picchu with professional English speaking guides
- Accommodations in selected mentioned hotels including buffet breakfast
- Entrance fees to all tourist spots described in the itinerary
- Train tickets Ollantaytambo / Machu Picchu and Machu Picchu / Ollantaytambo on Vistadome Class
- **Lunch:** Days 3 and 5
- **Box lunch:** Day 2
- **Dinner:** Day 3

Sample Itineraries

Peru & Bolivia

Saturday	Falklands 15:00 ... Santiago 21:25	Friday	Cuzco 14:30 ... Lima 16:00
Sunday	Santiago 07:35 ... Lima 09:30		Lima 17:45 ... Santiago 23:20
Monday	Lima 09:45 ... Arequipa 11:20	Saturday	Santiago 07:30 ... Falklands 15:00
Monday	La Paz 10:40 ... Cuzco 11:40		

Saturday Overnight in Santiago.

Sunday Reception and transfer to the hotel.

Tour some of Lima's main colonial sites: The Cathedral, Plaza Mayor, Government and Archbishop Palaces. Afterwards, drive through Lima's modern residential areas: San Isidro with its olive grove, golf course, and "Huaca Huallamarca"; and Miraflores with its central park, "Parque del Amor", and ocean views. Overnight in Lima.

Monday Transfer to the airport. Flight to Arequipa. Upon arrival, reception and transfer to the hotel.

In the afternoon, tour of the "White City", including the "Plaza de Armas" (main square), the Cathedral, La Compañía Church and the famous Monastery of Santa Catalina. Then, visit its picturesque surroundings. Overnight in Arequipa.

Tuesday Early in the morning departure by regular bus (Conresa) from Arequipa to Colca Valley. Enjoy th spectacular views of the Misti and Chachani volcanoes. Go through the National Reserve of Aguada Blanca, where vicuñas and possibly guanacos can be seen. Lunch and dinner included. Overnight in Colca.

Wednesday Drive to the Cruz del Condor observation point early in the morning. Continue to Chivay, visiting the towns of Maca and Yanque along the way. Lunch at the hotel. Afternoon at leisure. Dinner at the hotel. Overnight in Colca.

Thursday Departure to Chivay. Box lunch included. Arrival in Chivay and then departure by regular tourist bus (4M) from Colca to Puno. This scenic trip takes around 6 hours, making a stop along the way at a lookout over the Lagunillas, small beautiful lagoons that are home to Andean Flamingos. Arrival at Puno bus station and transfer to the hotel. Overnight in Puno.

Friday Full-day boat excursion to Taquile, an island located 38 km from Puno. On the way, visit the floating "Totora" islands of the Uro Indians, ancient inhabitants of Lake Titicaca, the highest navigable lake in the world. The Taquile Island, inhabited by 2,000 Quechua speaking Indians, is considered a wonderful place. World famous hand weaving and an ancient communal way of life will be admired. Lunch included. Overnight in Puno.

Saturday Early land transfer to Copacabana to visit the Sanctuary. Then, board the Catamaran cruise ship and sail to Sun Island, the legendary birthplace of the Inca Empire. Upon arrival to the island, visit an Inca garden, stairs and fountain. Then, continue to the Inti Wata Cultural Complex, the largest private tourist attraction in Bolivia; the tour of the cultural complex includes visits to the Ekako Underground Museum, the traditional medicine and Titicaca Reed Shipbuilders display centre, the Pachamama agricultural Inca terraces, a handicraft centre and the Intica lounge. The complex also offers a unique experience aboard a traditional Titicaca sailing vessel for a panoramic visit to the Pilkokaina Inca Palace. Afterwards, board the catamaran cruise ship again to sail to the Chua Harbor while enjoying a lunch buffet. Overnight in La Paz.

Sunday Morning, city tour including: the witch doctor market, San Francisco church, the typical handicrafts of the Sagarnaga street and Plaza Murillo - where the Cathedral, Government Palace and the National Congress are located. Then, visit the famous Jaen street where interesting museums are clustered together, and the site where a replica of the semi-underground temple of the Tiwanaku culture can be admired. The tour continues to the residential areas and ends with a visit to the famous Valley of the Moon, a natural wonder. Overnight in La Paz.

Monday Transfer to the airport. Flight to Cuzco. Upon arrival, reception and transfer to the hotel.

In the afternoon, tour of the city including the "Plaza de Armas", the Cathedral and Santo Domingo Church (Koricancha), followed by a visit of the surrounding ruins of Puka Pukara, Kenko, Tampu Machay and the renowned fortress and religious site of Sacsayhuaman, famous for its cosmic energy. Overnight in Cuzco.

Tuesday Drive up and hike to the splendid Inca ruins of Pisac at 3,250 m (10,654 ft), a large complex of religious temples, housing areas, agricultural terraces, cliff-hanging paths and astronomic observatories. Afterwards, visit the village of Pisac to shop at the colourful Indian market. Lunch at Tunupa del Valle Restaurant in Urubamba, followed by a tour of the town and fortress of Ollantaytambo, the last living Inca town. Overnight in the Sacred Valley.

Wednesday Transfer to Ollantaytambo's station. A scenic, 1 hour 30 minute train trip through the Urubamba Valley, followed by a 30 minute bus ride up to the breathtaking Lost City of the Incas, Machu Picchu, one of the Seven Wonders of the World. Guided tour through the ruins. After lunch at Belmond Sanctuary Lodge, free afternoon to explore the ruins. Dinner. Overnight in Machu Picchu (located at the base of the mountain).

Thursday Morning at Leisure to visit and enjoy the ancient citadel on your own. In the afternoon, return to Cuzco by train (Poroy station) and transfer to the hotel. Overnight in Cuzco.

Friday Transfer to the airport. Overnight in Santiago.

Program Includes:

- Private transfers as specified
- Regular services with professional English speaking guides (shared with more people) except in Lima La Paz and Arequipa, that are private
- Accommodation in selected hotels including buffet breakfasts except at Machu Picchu where half board will be included and in Colca where full board will be included.
- Bus / Catamaran / Bus Puno / La Paz
- Entrance fees to all tourist attractions mentioned in the itinerary
- BTC (Cuzco Tourist Ticket) + entrance to Cathedral and Koricancha
- Train tickets Ollantaytambo Machu Picchu and Machu Picchu / Cuzco (Vistadome class)
- **Lunch:** Day 3, 4, 6, 7, 10 and 11
- **Box lunch:** Day 5
- **Dinner:** Day 3, 4 and 11

Hotel Options Santiago:

see page 73

Hotel Options Peru:

Lima

El Tambo***

Casa Andina Premium

Miraflores****

Arequipa

Casa Andina Standard***

Casa Andina Premium****

Colca

Casa Andina Standard***

Colca Lodge****

Puno

Intiqa***

La Paz

Presidente***

Casa Andina Premium Puno****

Cuzco

Ruinas***

Casa Andina Premium Cuzco****

Sacred Valley

San Agustin Monasterio de la Recoleta***

Casa Andina Premium Sacred****

Machu Picchu

El Mapi***

Inkaterra Machu Picchu Hotel****



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