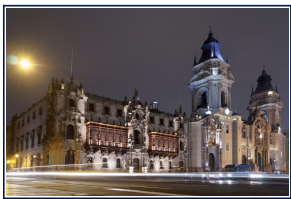




COACH TOUR - HIGHLIGHTS OF PERU - 7N/8D



ITINERARY

Highlights of Peru:
8days Tour (Trafalgar)

Our most popular Peru holiday, the ancient allure of Machu Picchu and Sacred Valley meet the buzz and bustle of Lima and Cusco with time spent with Insiders who share personal tales of their beloved country.



You'll enjoy Insider moments like...learning to weave in the Sacred Valley, watching centuries-old dyeing techniques, passed from mother to daughter, as the weavers keep their Andean traditions alive. Meeting the curator of the world's largest private collection of pre-Columbian art at the Larco Museum in Lima. And you hear tales of Dr. Diez Canseco's illustrious ancestors, as you tour his mansion, a traditional country house, and settle down to a home-cooked Peruvian meal with him.



Day 1 : ARRIVE LIMA (2 NIGHTS)

Bienvenidos a Lima, founded in 1535 by conquistador Francisco Pizarro who dubbed it the "City of Kings." A local host will greet you and take you to your hotel in San Isidro, one of Lima's exclusive neighbourhoods bustling with shops and restaurants (check in time 3 p.m.).

Hotel : Novotel Lima



Day 2 : LIMA FREE TIME AND SIGHTSEEING

Kick back, relax and enjoy your morning at the hotel, or perhaps venture out to do some exploring of your own. At lunchtime, meet your Travel Director and head to Casa Diez Canseco, the private home of an illustrious Lima family, and meet the friendly owner for a Welcome Reception and Be My Guest lunch. Learn about the history of your host's ancestors and tour his historic home before celebrating your arrival in Peru with a sumptuous home-cooked meal of traditional Peruvian delicacies. After lunch, bid farewell to your host and spend the afternoon exploring Peru's capital with your Local Specialist. Immerse yourself in the colonial splendour of Lima's Historic Centre, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, including the expansive Plaza de Armas with its impressive cathedral and the stately government palace. Then see the Church of San Francisco and discover its hidden catacombs and splendid architecture. The evening is yours—why not try one of Lima's renowned seafood restaurants?

Meal(s)

Full Breakfast

Be My Guest Dining

Day 3 : LIMA - CUSCO - SACRED VALLEY

Take a morning flight to Cusco and head for the Sacred Valley. Stop at Awanakancha, a living museum of the Peruvian Andes, where you can see and interact with llamas, alpacas and vicuñas. Enjoy a picnic box lunch before visiting the vibrant market of Pisac where local Quechua people come to sell their produce and handicrafts. Spend some time browsing the stalls, sip a cup of coca tea to help you acclimate to the altitude and keep your ears open for roving bands playing the traditional music of the Andes. Later this afternoon, arrive at your lovely hotel, a former 18th century colonial-style monastery, surrounded by beautiful gardens in the heart of the Sacred Valley. Learn about Peruvian weaving as you observe centuries-old methods of spinning, dyeing and weaving Andean traditional textiles, a Cultural Insight. This evening, enjoy a convivial dinner with your travelling companions at the hotel.

Meal(s)

Continental Breakfast

Lunch

Dinner

Hotel : Sonesta Posadas del Inca Yucay

Day 4 : SACRED VALLEY - MACHU PICCHU

After breakfast, head to Ollantaytambo to visit this famous Inca stronghold built from immense blocks of stone. Learn about Inca history as you tour the ruins of the hilltop fortress. Next, board the Vistadome train for the journey to the great citadel of the Incas (light snack included). Panoramic windows allow you to appreciate the incredible scenery as you follow the Rio Vilcanota to the town of Aguas Calientes. Upon arrival, take a short ride up to the entrance gate and begin your exploration of one of the New Seven Wonders of the World. Visit the ruins of this once-great fortress built in the 15th century and abandoned nearly 100 years later with the arrival of the Spanish conquistadors. See the highlights of this UNESCO World Heritage Site - the great Temple of the Sun, the House of the Priest, the Sacred Plaza and the Intihuatana, an intricately carved rock most likely used as a sundial by the ancient Incas. Dinner is served at the hotel.

Meal(s)

Full Breakfast

Dinner

Hotel : El Mapi by Inkaterra

Day 5 : MACHU PICCHU - CUSCO (2 NIGHTS)

Return to Machu Picchu to continue exploring on your own. If you're feeling adventurous, hike up to the Gate of the Sun for stunning views over the fortress and the valley below. Or view the incredible stonework and the amazing feats of engineering required to transport the huge blocks of stone to the top of this isolated mountain. In the early afternoon, board the train to the Sacred Valley. Then head toward the great colonial city of Cusco by coach. On the way, stop at a local chicheria for a taste of chicha, a Cultural Insight, and learn how this Peruvian corn beer is made only by women.

Meal(s)

Full Breakfast

Hotel : Novotel Cusco

Day 6 : CUSCO SIGHTSEEING AND FREE TIME

This morning, embark on a tour of Cusco, the “Imperial City,” and the capital of the Incas during their reign. This lively city, rich in history, bears marks of both the Inca and Spanish who came after them. Enjoy an introduction to the highlights of the city, including the incredible baroque Cathedral on the main Plaza de Armas at the heart of the city. Delve deeper into the history of this ancient place at the 17th century Church of Santo Domingo, which was built atop the foundations of the Inca Temple of the Sun, often referred to as Korikancha. Just outside of town, visit the ruins of the fortress of Sacsayhuaman, perched on a hill overlooking Cusco, and see nearby warehouses where the Incas stored their grain. Spend the rest of the afternoon on your own. This evening, gather for a Regional Meal at a local restaurant, enjoying delicious Cusqueñan dishes and ancestral dance performances.

Meal(s)

Full Breakfast

Regional Meal

Day 7 : CUSCO - LIMA

Fly back to Lima late this morning and enjoy an afternoon on your own to do some more exploring, pick up souvenirs or just relax. Later, meet a Local Specialist and curator at the Larco Museum, which houses the largest private collection of pre-Columbian art in the world, and learn about the evolution and cultures of Ancient Peru societies. Then gather with your travelling companions for a Farewell Dinner in the museum's garden restaurant.

Meal(s)

Full Breakfast

Farewell Dinner

Hotel : Novotel Lima

Day 8 : DEPART LIMA

Transfer to the airport for your onward flight or extend your stay at the Novotel Lima.

Meal(s)

Continental Breakfast

Full Breakfast

INCLUSIONS:

Sightseeing Highlights:

City tours of Lima and Cusco

Visit the outdoor market at Pisac, the ruins at Ollantaytambo, 15th century fortress of Machu Picchu, historic Sacsayhuaman and the Larco Museum in Lima

Scenic drive through the Sacred Valley

Iconic train journey aboard the Vistadome train

Dining

7 breakfasts.

2 lunches

(including Be My Guest).

4 dinners.

Travel Highlights:

Luxury air-conditioned coach with WiFi in most countries or alternative transportation (such as rail journeys)

Hand-picked 4 and 5 star accommodation

Hand-picked Insider Experiences

Optional Experiences and free time

All portage and restaurant gratuities

Must-see sightseeing and surprise extras

An expert Travel Director and separate Driver

All hotel tips, charges and local taxes

Airport transfers on the first and last day of your guided holiday

VIP entry to many sights

Audio Headsets for flexible sightseeing

7 nights First Class accommodation

A Trafalgar Bonus - All Intra-Air Flights: Lima to Cusco and Cusco to Lima, including porter service at all airports

Airport Transfers