



A Week in Peru: Lima, Cuzco & Machu Picchu

8 days | 11 days with Lima & Paracas extension

Make your way from lively Lima, Peru's capital city, to colonial Cuzco and the center of the ancient Inca civilization in the Sacred Valley and Machu Picchu. As you travel on this small group Adventure Tour, uncover how Peru's indigenous roots, Spanish influences, and pre-Columbian history blend to give the country its captivating character.



Your tour package includes

- 6 nights in handpicked hotels
- 6 breakfasts
- 3 lunches
- 3 dinners with beer or wine
- 1 tasting
- 5 sightseeing tours
- Expert Tour Director & local guides
- Private deluxe motor coach
- 2 on-tour flights
- 2 train rides

Included highlights

- Huaca Pucllana
- Sacsayhuaman
- Sacred Valley of the Incas
- Balcon del Inka textile cooperative
- Ollantaytambo
- PeruRail train ride
- Machu Picchu

Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for about 2 hours daily across moderately uneven terrain, including rocky ground and unpaved trails, at high altitudes.

Group size

12-22

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Lima → 1 night

Day 1: Arrival in Lima

Welcome to Peru! Transfer to your hotel in Lima and get settled in.

Cuzco → 2 nights

Day 2: Sightseeing tour of Lima & flight to Cuzco

Included meals: breakfast, tasting, welcome lunch

Set out on a guided tour highlighting the Peruvian capital's modern and UNESCO-recognized quarters.

- Walk through Plaza de Armas, viewing the Cathedral of Lima and Church of San Francisco
- Enter the archaeological site of Huaca Pucllana to learn about the towering abode and clay pyramid
- Visit the Parque del Amor in the Miraflores district and see views of the Pacific Ocean during a walk along the boardwalk
- Stroll through the artsy Barranco district, stopping to sample coffee and alfajores cookies

Sip on a pisco sour as you get to know your Tour Director and fellow travelers at this afternoon's welcome lunch. Then, transfer to the airport for your flight to Cuzco, a city located in the Andes Mountains.

Day 3: Sightseeing tour of Cuzco

Included meals: breakfast

Join a local guide on today's tour of Cuzco, the UNESCO-recognized ancient capital of the Inca Empire.

- Stroll through the Sacsayhuaman ruins, which were once completely covered in gold
- View the towering Cristo Blanco statue, a thank-you gift from the Palestinian refugees who took shelter in the city during World War II
- Walk through the city center and step inside the Convent of Santa Domingo, built by the Spaniards where the Inca temple of Koricancha stood

- Stop in Plaza de Armas to enter Cuzco Cathedral
- Visit San Pedro Market to see crafts made by local artisans and try fresh fruits

Spend a free evening in Cuzco or add an excursion.

+ Cuzco Cooking Class & Dinner

Machu Picchu Region → 1 night

Day 4: Aguas Calientes via the Sacred Valley

Included meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner

Transfer to Aguas Calientes, the gateway to Machu Picchu. First, make stops in the Sacred Valley to take in the sights.

- Start your morning in the quaint village of Chinchero to visit Balcon del Inka, a local textile cooperative run by Quechuan women
 - Watch as artisans demonstrate their traditional weaving, spinning and dying techniques on both alpaca and sheep yarn
 - Try your hand at spinning on the loom
 - Peruse the colorful stalls of the open-air Chinchero Market, where you can shop for local textiles
 - Enjoy an included lunch at a local restaurant in Chinchero
 - Continue to the ancient Ollantaytambo ruins to explore still-standing Inca homes and fortress stone walls with a guide
 - Board a scenic train to Aguas Calientes, soaking in views of the Sacred Valley
- Sit down for an included dinner this evening.

Sacred Valley → 2 nights

Day 5: Sightseeing tour of Machu Picchu

Included meals: breakfast, lunch

Uncover the UNESCO-protected city of Machu Picchu, one of the most spectacular archaeological sites on the entire South American continent.

- Tour the ruins of the ceremonial center, cultivation terraces, and guard house

- Visit Funeral Rock, the Main Temple, Temple of the Three Windows, Chamber of Ornaments, the Sacred Plaza, and the Intihuatana stone

Spend a free late-morning in Aguas Calientes or add an excursion.

Please note: On some departures, the optional excursion may be offered in the morning before your guided tour of Machu Picchu.

Enjoy an included lunch at a local restaurant in Aguas Calientes. Then, travel through the Sacred Valley on a scenic train ride to Urubamba, where you will spend the night.

+ Machu Picchu: Hike to the Sun Gate

Day 6: Free day in the Sacred Valley

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

Enjoy a free day in the Sacred Valley or add an excursion.

Sit down for an included dinner this evening.

+ Mismisay Village Home-Hosted Lunch, Moray & Maras

Overnight Flight → 1 night

Day 7: Departure

Included meals: breakfast, farewell dinner

Transfer to the airport in Cuzco, where you'll board your flight to Lima.

In Lima tonight, celebrate with your fellow travelers at a farewell dinner. Then, return to your dayroom to relax before a late-night or early morning flight home.

Please note: If you're traveling on the extension, you'll spend the night in Lima.

Arrive Home

Day 8: Travel day

Arrive home today.

+ Lima & Paracas extension

Paracas is a region known for its diverse landscapes, we're talking rolling ocean waves to the west and stretches of desert sand dunes to the east. Sip pisco in a vineyard before spotting penguins sunbathing off the Peruvian coast.

Then, end with some extra time in Lima where your Tour Director will continue to show you the best that this destination has to offer.

Lima → 1 night

Day 7: Flight to Lima

Included meals: breakfast, farewell dinner

Transfer to the airport in Cuzco, where you'll board your flight to Lima.

In Lima tonight, celebrate with your fellow travelers at a farewell dinner. Then, settle in to your hotel.

Paracas → 1 night

Day 8: Pisco Vineyards & transfer to Paracas

Included meals: breakfast, wine tasting, lunch

Travel south along the Pacific Highway to Paracas, a beautiful small town by the sea, making several stops en route.

- Take photos of the contrasting desert and coastal landscapes
- Tour the family-run Pisco Vineyards
- Learn how red wine and pisco, Peru's national drink, are made using traditional methods invented when the Spanish invaded the Inca Empire
- Sample wine and pisco during a tasting paired with an included lunch

Continue on to Paracas and spend free time in the city or add an excursion.

+ Paracas Desert Dune Buggy Ride

Lima → 1 night

Day 9: Ballestas Islands wildlife cruise & transfer to Lima

Included meals: breakfast, lunch

Hop aboard a boat and sail to the Ballestas Islands where you'll enjoy a wildlife cruise with a naturalist guide.

- Learn about the islands, which are considered a smaller version of the Galápagos Islands
- View the massive rock formations including the many arches and caves created by erosion
- Stay on the lookout for fur seals, sea lions, Humboldt penguins, and birds relaxing in their natural habitat
- Keep your eyes peeled for dolphins swimming in the water

Spend free time in Paracas or add an excursion. This afternoon, enjoy an included lunch at a local restaurant before traveling back along the scenic Pacific Highway to Lima.
+ Nazca Lines Flight

Overnight Flight → 1 night

Day 10: Free day in Lima & departure

Included meals: breakfast

Spend a free day in Lima or add an excursion.

Then, relax in your dayroom before a late-night or early morning flight home.

+ Monumental Callao: Street Art & Food Tour

Day 11: Arrival at home

Arrive home today.

Customize your experience

Customize your tour by adding excursion options. Excursions offered on the same day will occur at different times, so there's no need to choose. Save \$10 when you book your excursion up to three days before your tour departs.* Excursions requiring advance reservation only list this discounted price. Call or go online to customize your tour: goaheadtours.com/PEW | 1-800-597-0350

Day 3: Cuzco Cooking Class & Dinner

\$119/\$129* (3 hours, departs in the evening, dinner included)

During this cooking class you'll mix, toss, and stir up some of Peru's most well-known—and delicious—foods. Head to one of the top local restaurants in Cuzco, which offers beautiful views of Plaza de Armas. You'll participate in a hands-on lesson where a Peruvian chef will teach you how to make two classic dishes, causa de pollo and tiradito de trucha. The first is a cold appetizer featuring chicken and potato, while the second is a flavorful trout dish. Then, sit down to enjoy the meal you prepared with a glass of beer or wine. Please note: The venue may change based on group size and departure date.

Day 5: Machu Picchu: Hike to the Sun Gate

\$79 (3 hours, departure time varies)

After experiencing Machu Picchu with your tour group this morning, take the opportunity to continue exploring the Lost City of the Incas this afternoon. You'll have the chance to re-enter the UNESCO-listed site and join a local guide on a hike up to the Sun Gate. The Sun Gate was once the main entrance to Machu Picchu and was built to honor Inti, the Sun God. This moderately strenuous hike features magnificent views of Machu Picchu and Huayna Picchu. If you opt out of the hike, you'll have free time to marvel at the mysterious Intihuatana stone and discover the cave of the Temple of the Condor, two sites you're only able to see during this additional visit. The Peruvian government only allows select visitors into Machu Picchu each day, but purchasing your return ticket in advance from Go Ahead Tours will guarantee you reentrance to the site on the day of your excursion. Please note: It's possible to purchase return tickets to Machu Picchu directly from the Peruvian government, but tickets are limited in availability and must be purchased well in advance. Additionally, new booking regulations require tickets to be purchased for a specific entry time. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 20 days prior to departure.

Day 6: Misminay Village Home-Hosted Lunch, Moray & Maras

\$109/\$119* (8 hours, departs in the morning, lunch included)

Spend the morning learning about the roots of the Sacred Valley. Start in Misminay, an ancient community located over 12,000 feet above sea level in the Sacred Valley. You'll enjoy spectacular views of the Sacred Valley and snow-capped mountains as you meet the local villagers. Learn about the traditional agricultural, weaving techniques, and daily activities of the 500 families who live in the community. You'll also have the chance to taste the local Chicha corn beer they produce. Then, sit down to enjoy an included lunch cooked by the ladies of Misminay. The meal will feature naturally cultivated ingredients harvested from the area, paired with live Andean music from the community

musicians. After lunch, take a 45-minute downhill hike to Moray, the site of famous Incan ruins that feature large circular terraces used for agricultural experiments. Then continue by bus to Maras, known for its patchwork of terraced salt-evaporation ponds that have been used since pre-Incan times.

Extension excursion options

Day 8: Paracas Desert Dune Buggy Ride

\$105/\$115* (2 hours, departs in the afternoon)

Meet up with an expert dune buggy driver and guide in Paracas and set out to explore the beauty of the nearby tropical desert. Hop inside a 4x4 dune buggy and enjoy a thrilling adventure as you drive up and down the sand dunes used for the famed Dakar Rally off-road racing competition. You'll enjoy a unique view of the oasis when you drive up to one of the highest dunes in the area. From here, you can choose to take a thrilling ride on a sandboard down the dunes. This activity is similar to sledding, but instead of snow, you do it on the sand! Depending on the time of year, you may end the day by viewing a gorgeous sunset over the sand dunes. Please note: Travelers will be split into groups of five or less per dune buggy. Additionally, the ride may be bumpy and is not suitable for travelers with back issues or some mobility restrictions.

Day 9: Nazca Lines Flight

\$349/\$359* (2 hours, departs in the morning)

Travel to the nearby town of Pisco where you'll board a flight to one of the world's greatest remaining mysteries, the Nazca Lines. Visible only from the air, the UNESCO-listed Nazca Lines are massive geoglyphs (geometric designs made of rocks) in the desert, preserved for over 1,000 years in one of the driest places on earth. You'll take an aerial tour of the region, learning about the many theories behind their origin from your local guide. Please note: This excursion may not be appropriate for travelers prone to motion sickness. It is also weather-dependent. All travelers will need to report their weight to the pilot before takeoff, and passengers over 223 pounds must notify Go Ahead Tours prior to departure.

Day 10: Monumental Callao: Street Art & Food Tour

\$99/\$109* (4 hours, departs in the morning)

Spend some time exploring one of the area's most colorful and creative areas—the Callao district. This seaside spot is located about 10 miles west of Lima and is home to lively culture, stunning street art, and delicious food. Travel to the Historic Center of Callao and join a local for a guided tour. Stroll through the iconic streets to see the historic architecture surrounding Plaza Matriz and along the port. You'll also see the colorful, artistic graffiti that tells the story of the chalacos (that's what people from Callao call themselves!). You'll learn how local artists reclaimed the history of their city through the Fugaz initiative and why they chose to express their culture through inventive street art that covers buildings across the Monumental

Callao neighborhood. Pair your immersive art lesson with some tasty small bites when you visit a few local eateries to sample some of the city's best flavors. End the day by soaking in panoramic views from the rooftop of Casa Fugaz before heading back to Lima.

*Optional excursions may be purchased up to three days prior to departure or while on tour. Pre-purchased optional excursions cannot be canceled within three days prior to departure or while on tour. Select optional excursions require advance booking and cannot be purchased or canceled after the advanced reservation deadline. GAT accepts payment by cash, Visa or MasterCard for optional excursions purchased on tour. Additional fees may apply for optional excursions purchased on tour. Excursions require a minimum number of participants to operate. Details and prices are subject to change. Due to seasonal hours of operation and availability, some excursions may not operate. If this occurs, you will be refunded any payments made for that excursion post-tour. Learn more at goaheadtours.com/terms