



Ancient Peru & Machu Picchu

11 days | 14 days with the Amazon extension

Lima is home to excellent museums that showcase the achievements of ancient Peru, but the country's main draw is the chance to uncover the very sites where the ancient Inca once thrived. Ascend into the Andes and explore the plazas of colonial Cuzco, the Inca sites in the Sacred Valley, and the legendary Lost City of the Incas with a Machu Picchu tour.



Your tour package includes

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

Included highlights

- Huaca Huallamarca
- Lima's Plaza Mayor
- Sacsayhuaman
- Sacred Valley of the Incas
- Pisac
- 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

18–35

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Lima → 3 nights

Day 1: Travel to Peru

Board your flight to Lima and arrive later this evening.

Day 2: Sightseeing tour of Lima

Included meals: breakfast, welcome lunch

Get to know your fellow travelers at a welcome lunch before entering the Larco Museum to view its collection of pre-Columbian art.

Then, follow a local guide on a tour of both the modern and colonial quarters of Lima.

- See the city's cathedral, Plaza de Armas, and the Church of San Francisco, which houses a museum of religious art and 16th-century catacombs
- Enter the Huaca Huallamarca archaeological site

Day 3: Free time in Lima

Included meals: breakfast

Enjoy a full free day in Lima or add excursions.

- + Traditional Peruvian Dinner
- + Nazca Lines

Cuzco → 2 nights

Day 4: Flight to Cuzco

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

Travel to the airport this afternoon for your flight to Cuzco.

Upon arrival, enjoy free time to acclimate to the elevation as you explore on your own.

Tonight, get a taste of Peruvian cuisine during an included dinner as you watch a traditional folklore show featuring indigenous dances from around the country.

Day 5: Sightseeing tour of Cuzco

Included meals: breakfast

Set out on a sightseeing tour of Cuzco, the UNESCO-recognized ancient capital of the Inca Empire.

- Stroll through ruins at Kenko, the "red fortress" of Puca Pucara, and Sacsayhuaman, which was 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
- Stop at the colonial-era Plaza de Armas to enter Cuzco Cathedral
- Walk through the city center and step inside Convent of Santo Domingo, built by the Spaniards where the Inca temple of Koricancha stood

Enjoy a free evening in Cuzco or add an excursion.

- + Peruvian Cooking Demonstration & Dinner

Sacred Valley → 1 night

Day 6: The Sacred Valley

Included meals: breakfast, lunch

A local guide leads you on a full-day sightseeing tour of the Sacred Valley of the Incas, nestled between Cuzco, Machu Picchu, and the surrounding Andes Mountains.

- Explore traditional markets in the village of Pisac
- Stop in Urubamba to enjoy lunch with the group
- Travel to the mysterious Ollantaytambo ruins to explore ancient homes, terraces, and temples within the fortress walls

Machu Picchu → 1 night

Day 7: Sightseeing tour of Machu Picchu

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

Travel by train to Aguas Calientes, the gateway to Machu Picchu. You'll uncover the Lost City of the Incas, one of the most spectacular archaeological sites in South America and a UNESCO World Heritage site, alongside a local guide.

- Admire incredible views of the misty cloud forest and soaring Huayna Picchu mountain
- Tour the ruins of the ceremonial center, cultivation terraces, and guard house
- Visit Funeral Rock, the Main Temple, the Chamber of Ornaments, and the Sacred Plaza

- Soak in the vistas from the Temple of the Three Windows

Sit down for an included dinner this evening.

Cuzco → 2 nights

Day 8: Free time in Cuzco or return Machu Picchu trip

Included meals: breakfast, lunch

Spend a free morning near Machu Picchu or add an excursion to return to the ruins.

Rejoin the group for lunch in Aguas Calientes before taking a train back to Cuzco.

- + Machu Picchu: Return Visit

Day 9: Free time in Cuzco

Included meals: breakfast

Enjoy a full free day in Cuzco or add an excursion.

- + Incan Traditions: Moray, Maras & Chinchero Village

Overnight Flight → 1 night

Day 10: Departure

Included meals: breakfast, farewell lunch

Fly to Lima this morning to say goodbye to your group at a farewell lunch. Then, relax in a dayroom before boarding your flight home tonight or early tomorrow morning.

If you are continuing on the tour extension to the Amazon, you'll spend tonight in Lima.

Arrive Home

Day 11: Arrival at home

Arrive home today.

+ the Amazon extension

In the Amazon, nature is on display like nowhere else (seriously—more things live here than anywhere else in the world). Fly to Iquitos, then set out to see incredible wildlife in the world's biggest rainforest and meet indigenous Yagua people to learn about their history.

Lima → 1 night

Day 10: Flight to Lima

Included meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner

Fly to Lima this morning and settle into your hotel. Then, sit down to an included lunch and dinner with your group.

The Amazon → 2 nights

Day 11: Flight to Iquitos & rainforest walk

Included meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner

Fly to Iquitos this morning to begin your adventure in the Amazon. When you arrive, enjoy lunch before setting out on an invigorating walk in the rainforest reserve surrounding your lodge. This evening, sit down to an included dinner with your group.

Please note: Some flights to Iquitos depart very early in the morning and breakfast may not be included.

Day 12: Free morning & Yagua village visit

Included meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner

Today, enjoy a free morning in the Amazon or add an excursion. Then, sit down for an included lunch before setting out to visit a local village.

- Take a short river cruise to a Yagua indigenous village, keeping your eye out for the elusive pink dolphin
- Learn about the local village culture and watch a blowgun demonstration

This evening, sit down for an included dinner.

+ Amazon Canopy Walk

Overnight Flight → 1 night

Day 13: Franciscan mission town visit & departure

Included meals: breakfast, lunch

Visit the Franciscan mission town of Indiana this morning. This large river community has grown to include its own market, high school, and small hospital.

Later, fly to Lima and relax in a dayroom before boarding your overnight or early morning flight home.

Arrive home

Day 14: 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/PRU | 1-800-597-0350

Day 3: Traditional Peruvian Dinner

\$75/\$85* (3 hours, departs in the evening with dinner)

At tonight's dinner in Lima, get a taste of the traditional flavors of Peruvian cuisine. Start the evening with a cooking demonstration and learn to make classic ceviche and a pisco sour, the national drink of Peru. Then, sit down to enjoy a delicious dinner of regional specialties.

Day 3: Nazca Lines

\$499 (12 hours, departs in the morning with lunch)

Travel from Lima to the 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 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 the Lines' origin. Lunch is included. Please note: This optional requires advanced booking and payment at least 45 days prior to departure. The travel time to Pisco is approximately 3.5 hours each way. This excursion may not be appropriate for travelers prone to motion sickness. 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. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 45 days prior to departure.

Day 5: Peruvian Cooking Demonstration & Dinner

\$125/\$135* (3 hours, departs in the evening with dinner)

Watch as an expert chef prepares a traditional Peruvian meal during a cooking demonstration at one of Cuzco's top restaurants on this culinary excursion. With the beautiful Andes Mountains as your backdrop, you'll discover how Peruvians use locally sourced ingredients to create authentic dishes. You'll also learn how to make causa de pollo, a dish made of chicken and potatoes, and tiradito de trucha, a popular seafood-based meal. Afterwards, enjoy a delicious three-course dinner crafted by the expert chef in the restaurant.

Day 8: Machu Picchu: Return Visit

\$115 (duration of visit varies, departure time varies)

After experiencing Machu Picchu for the first time with your tour group, take the opportunity to continue exploring the Lost City of the Incas on your own the next morning. You'll 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 morning 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. Go Ahead Tours reserves tickets for either a 7am or 8am entry time. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 45 days prior to departure.

Day 9: Incan Traditions: Moray, Maras & Chinchero Village

\$89 (7 hours, departs in the morning with lunch)

Spend the morning learning about the roots of the Sacred Valley. Start in Moray, the site of famous Incan ruins that feature large circular terraces used for agricultural experiments. Then continue on to Maras, known for its patchwork of terraced salt-evaporation ponds that have been used since pre-Incan times. Finish your morning in the quaint village of Chinchero to visit a local cooperative of families known as the Balcon del Inka. Here, artisans will demonstrate their traditional weaving and dying techniques and even give you a chance to try your hand at spinning on the loom. Afterward, enjoy an included lunch before heading back to Cuzco. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 20 days prior to departure.

Extension excursion options

Day 12: Amazon Canopy Walk

\$165/\$175* (8 hours, departs in the morning)

Go deep into the Amazon for a treetop walk. The day starts with breakfast under the palm-thatched roofs of the ExplorNapo Lodge on the Napo River. Next, hike to the spectacular Canopy Walkway for a bird's-eye view of the rainforest, taking in the lush plants and wildlife along the way. Afterward, visit the ReNuPeRu Ethnobotanical Garden. A local shaman will explain how the 240 plants cultivated here are used for healing.

*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