

PERU ECO-ADVENTURE & SHORT INCA TRAIL

Enjoy Nature in Sandoval Lake Lodge and discover Lima & Cusco in 9 Days/8 Nights

Explore diverse Peruvian ecosystems and learn more about wildlife in Peru Amazon area, culture and history. This is specially designed for those with love of nature and taste for light adventure. While discovering our beautiful country enjoy the diverse hotels we offer you in each destination.



ITINERARY

Day 1: International arrival in Lima

Upon arrival, we will be met at Lima's international airport and transferred to selected hotel. Overnight in Lima.

Day 2 Lima /Cusco

Breakfast in hotel

At the right time, transfer to the airport to take the flight to Cusco.

Upon arrival, you will be met and transferred to the hotel. Balance of the morning free to adjust to the altitude.

Morning at leisure.

We'll enjoy an afternoon guided tour of the nearby Inca ruins including Kenko, the ceremonial bath of Tambomachay and the amazing Sacsayhuaman, a huge fortress of massive stones. We will also take a tour of the city including the Koricancha, temple of the Sun, a nice example of the Inca architecture, The 12-angled stone, the Main Plaza, the Cathedral and much more. Return to your hotel later in the day. Return to your hotel Overnight in Cusco.



Day 3 : Cusco / Sacred Valley of the Incas

After early breakfast, transfer to the airport to take the flight to Cusco. Arrival at Cusco airport, reception and transfer to the Sacred Valley

Full day tour, including visits to the colorful Pisac Indian Market and the Ollantaytambo Fortress. At an elevation of 8,500 feet, the Urubamba Valley, or Sacred Valley of the Incas, is the historic heart of the Inca Empire. It was intensively cultivated with terraces increasing its harvest several fold.

Small villages lined the valley floor, while the stone fortresses of Ollantaytambo and Pisac served the dual purpose of providing protection and serving as religious centers. Without the benefit of the wheel, the Incas built massive stone cities and ruled an empire stretching 3,300 miles over some of the harshest terrain on earth. Without the use of mortar, the Inca constructed their cities, suspension bridges, and aqueduct systems, with an engineering expertise that has survived five hundred years of natural disasters, conquest, and modern development.

Overnight in Sacred Valley.

Day 4 : Sacred valley/Km 104 / Machu Picchu

You will be transferred to Ollantaytambo train station where you will catch the train to Km 104 to Machu Picchu. where we alight and cross a footbridge to begin our hike at the Inca site of Chachabamba. After a brief visit to this lovely ruin with its water channels and fountains, we start the four-hour ascent that will take us past spectacular overlooks above the great valley, then below a lovely waterfall near the delightful site of Wiñay Wayna (Forever Young). We ascend through this largest and most exquisite of the Inca Trail sites, passing its chain of ritual baths and elegantly curved terracing, and then joining the main Inca Trail.

We follow it across a steep mountainside and up narrow stairways through lush, humid cloud-forest of giant ferns and broad-leaf vegetation. Suddenly we cross the stone threshold of Intipunku (Sun Gate) and encounter an unforgettable sweep of natural beauty and human artistry —a backdrop of twisting gorge and forested peaks framing the magical city of Machu Picchu.

We walk the last half-hour or so down the royal flagstone walkway, past outlying shrines and buildings and through the heart of Machu Picchu, taking a bus to the small town of Aguas Calientes .

Overnight in Machu Picchu Pueblo (lower part of the Sanctuary).

Day 5 : Machu Picchu / Cusco

We enjoy an early morning visit to the fabled ruins, spending the day in both guided and individual exploration. After we visit the most fascinating features of this astounding and mysterious Inca settlement, some will want to take the optional hike to an amazing overview of the site, while other may prefer to investigate Machu Picchu's multitude of hidden nooks and corners.



Constructed from precisely sculptured granite blocks carefully joined with the projecting exposed stone of the surrounding mountain, the site may well be the finest architectural achievement of the new world. After lunch, we'll descend by bus around 3:00 p.m. to catch the train to Ollantaytambo or Poroy Station and transfer to Cusco.

Overnight in Cusco.

Day 6 : Cusco / Puerto Maldonado / Sandoval Lake Lodge

Morning transfer to the airport for your flight to Puerto Maldonado

Upon arrival, our staff will welcome you at the airport in Puerto Maldonado and drive you through the city to the boat dock on the Tambopata River. Here we board a motorized canoe and head towards the nearby confluence of the mighty Madre de Dios River, the source of the Amazon tributary. Just 30 minutes down river is landing at the port that will lead to Sandoval Lake.

We walk a trail of 3 Km (2 mi), stopping to watch birds and butterflies, up to a narrow canal boats. From there, we navigate the flooded forest of palm trees that leads to the open waters of this peaceful lake.

Our crew will row the boats across to the lodge (motors are prohibited on the lake). Under the surface of the lake we may see the huge Paiche (an Amazonian fish that can weigh up to 100Kg/220lbs). Or you may hear strange and unsettling screams and see heads peering from the lake surface, which will mark our first encounter with *Pteronura brasiliensis*, the Giant Otter of the Amazon.

After a brief rest, we start again by boat to explore the entire eastern end of the lake, following the sound of hundreds of Blue-and-Yellow and Red-Breasted Macaws as they return to the palm forest for the night. Our view from the boat often allows close and extensive encounters with birds and mammals. In Sandoval Lake the Capuchin Monkey, in particular, has nearly lost its fear of humans.

We return to the lodge at dusk for dinner. Afterwards we take the boat again, in search of caimans, which are now extremely rare in the Amazon, but are still common in this protected lake. They grow up to 4m long, and dispute their share of fishing with the otters. On clear nights we go by boat farther into the lake for a view of the vast southern sky, unobstructed, with its magnificent views of constellations and the Milky Way.



Day 7 : Sandoval Lake Lodge

Just before dawn we will be on the lake for what is often a spectacular sunrise; and hope for an encounter with the Giant Otters that roam the lake in a close-knit family, very active at this time of day. At this time most of the birds that inhabit the lake are also very active. There will be time and tranquility to observe the birds fishing; while they stalk and capture prey. We will also have close-up views of the primitive Shansho (*Ophistocumus hoazin*) eating leaves. After enjoying a late breakfast, we'll walk the trail through the cool understory of the impressive primary rainforest that surrounds the lake. We will see the great Chestnut trees that abound here.

After lunch we rest for an hour and then explore the west side of the lake where we will have chances to observe different species of monkey; including the most common Capuchin Monkey.

Before dinner there is a video presentation on the Peruvian Jungle and after dinner we will have the opportunity to spot caimans in the lake.

Day 8 : Sandoval Lake Lodge to Puerto Maldonado / Lima

After breakfast we make a final paddle through palm swamps on the west end of the lake. On the clearer mornings a glorious sunrise and its reflection can be seen in the lake. We return to the Madre de Dios River and head towards Puerto Maldonado and from there on to the airport for your flight to Lima. Upon arrival, you will be met at Lima's international airport and transferred to your hotel.
Overnight in Lima

Day 9 : Discover Lima and International departure

Breakfast at the hotel.

During the morning, the best tour to become familiar with Lima and its history. This tour gives you the best combination of attractions in Lima from pre-Hispanic, Colonial and Modern times.

Huaca Pucllana, a magnificent ceremonial and administrative site, dating back to the IV century A.D., which the Incas called "Naupallaqta", or sacred town will be the beginning of this tour. You will also visit Huaca Huallamarca, a typical pyramid characteristic of sacred pre-Hispanic edifices found along the Peruvian coast.

A visit to Lima's historic downtown, including Paseo de la República, Plaza San Martín, the Main Plaza and the surrounding monuments: the Presidential Palace, the Cathedral, the Archbishop's Palace, City Hall, the Desamparados train station, and the Moorish-style houses and balconies along Lima's old streets.

The next stop is San Francisco Convent, with the best exhibition of Colonial Art in Latin America. The tour includes the Choir Hall, the Monks' Library and the Sacristy, featuring a collection of Zurbarán and Rivera oil paintings. After visiting the Main Patio of the Cloister to see its fine XVI century Seville tiles and Moorish Arches, the tour will proceed to the Underground Crypts known as the Catacombs.

A visit to the traditional neighborhood near the San Isidro Golf Club, the Olive Grove Park and the modern LarcoMar shopping and entertainment complex, a distinctive landmark of Modern Lima offering a spectacular view of the Pacific Ocean. The tour of LarcoMar features a splendid exhibit of Peruvian alpaca textiles, and jewellery and handicrafts from the many regions and civilizations of historic Peru.

We suggest to leave your luggage at storage room as the accommodation is only until noon. At appropriate time transfer to the airport for your international flight.

Recommendations for Inca Trail :

- A backpack
- Camera gear (ASA 50, 100 and 200 recommended)
- Rain suit or long poncho (100 % waterproof - test before you leave home)
- Sweater and jacket for cool days or nights
- Trekking shoes
- Sunscreen lotion
- A bottle or canteen to carry water
- Water purifying tablets
- A hat
- Sunglasses
- Insect repellent
- A photocopy of your passport

- A flashlight and batteries
- Personal toiletries and medications
- Towel and toilet paper
- Snacks
- Peruvian currency (soles)
- There is a limit of 5 kilograms/ 11 pounds per person

Reccommendations for Sandoval Lake Lodge :

- Good binoculars
- Camera gear (ASA 50, 100 and 200 recommended)
- Two or three pairs of long pants
- Four pairs of absorbent cotton socks
- Rain suit or long poncho (100% waterproof - test before you leave home)
- Three or four long-sleeved cotton shirts
- Two or three T-shirts
- A bottle or canteen to carry water on outings
- Sunscreen lotion (high factor)
- A hat that will not come off in windy boat-rides
- One pair of shorts
- Sunglasses
- A pair of sneakers or hiking boots (with good gripping soles) and sandals
- Insect repellent (Skin-so-soft for river, and 20% or more deep for forest)
- A photocopy of your passport
- A large, bright flashlight
- Personal toiletries and medications
- Rubber Boots for the rainy season from November to April. (if you have larger sizes)
- Cash for souvenirs at the lodge stand, alcoholic beverages, etc

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| Private or Fixed Departure | Daily |
| Operates | All year |
| Physical Demand | None |

Included in your trip:

Private overland transportation
Guided tours
Entrance fees
Meals mention in the itinerary
Hotel Accommodation

NOT included:

Airport taxes
Domestic flights
Excess baggage
Tips

AIR TICKETS :

For domestic flights, we suggest to contact Éxito Travel, a wholesaler based in United States. They are familiar with our operations and are used to book flights for our clients according to their respective itineraries. When booking your tickets, please provide them the information on your trip itinerary and they will do all the necessary bookings. If you book with a different agency this may lead to some logistic problems as it is important that the group travels together on the same planes.

All tickets issued in Peru are subject to 18% sales taxes but if you purchase the tickets through Exito Travel, no taxes are charged. You can make all the arrangement directly with them.

Contact vip@exitotravel.com
Always copy to cmguevara@inkanatura.com.pe

You give them the flights you need and they will give you a good deal for flights

