

# PERU

Journey to the land of the Incas. Savor world-famous cuisine while exploring the capital city of Lima, Cusco and the Sacred Valley, the salt mines at Maras, and the iconic Machu Picchu. You might even get a llama to pose for a photo!

## Why Brightspark?

## Safety And Security

We regularly conduct strict audits of our vendors, ensuring they act in accordance with safety, security, and quality standards.

## **Our Tour Directors**

You deserve the best, so we only use experienced and enthusiastic Tour Directors who are experts on their destinations.

## **Quality, Custom Tours**

Our programs are designed for you, by you. From STEM-based DC tours to performance trips to some of our country's top music cities, we have a destination for every budget and every passion.

## **Industry Experience**

With over 50 years of experience providing custom tours, Brightspark is a leader in student travel.

## Travel Protection & Incident Coverage

With our 24/7 emergency hotline and comprehensive travel insurance options, we've got you covered at home and abroad.





# PERU

#### Day 1: Board your flight to Perú.

- Meet your Tour Director at Jorge Chávez International Airport.
- Board your private motor coach and settle into your hotel.

#### Day 2: Lima

- Meet your guide for a walking tour of the Peruvian capital. Your
  journey through the "City of Kings" begins at the Miraflores and
  San Isidro districts, including a visit to the archaeological site at
  Huaca Huallamarca.
- Continue to this colonial and modern city's historic center and visit the Santo Domingo Convent. Aside from its lush inner patio, the church and convent house the remains of San Martín de Porres and Santa Rosa de Lima.
- Head to Plaza Mayor. Bordering the main square, you will find the Presidential Palace, the Archbishop's Palace, City Hall, and the Catedral de Lima.
- Your tour concludes with a visit to the Larco Museum and its incomparable collection of artifacts from ancient Perú.

## Day 3: Cusco and the Sacred Valley

- Head to the airport and board a short flight to Cusco.
- Explore the area's many archaeological sites, starting with Sacsayhuaman. The stunning complex features perfectly-placed stone blocks measuring almost 30 feet tall.
- Visit Qenko, a temple dedicated to animal worship and one of the largest holy places in the region.
- Continue to the military ruins at **Puca Pucara** before stopping at **Tambomachay**, also known as the Inca Baths.
- Travel to the **Urubamba Valley**, the Sacred Valley of the Incas.
- Your tour of the region begins at **Písac**, famous for its artisan markets. Follow the trail to the hilltop citadel and discover its ancient temples and squares. Admire the **Intihuatana**, a large stone structure believed to have been an ancient sundial.

#### Day 4: Maras, Moray & Misminay

- Board your private motor coach and head to Maras, site of some of the world's finest salt mines. The mines' terraces and lagoons offer stunning views for photographs.
- Experience the Andean way of life during a visit to Misminay. Learn about local agriculture by planting and harvesting seasonal products. Alongside your hosts, use these ingredients to master local gastronomy during a cooking class that turns into lunch.
- Visit the Moray agricultural terraces, used as botanic laboratories by the Incas. Enjoy the breathtaking views of the Sacred Valley.

### Day 5: Ollantaytambo

- Embark upon a guided tour of **Ollantaytambo**, an Andean village in the Sacred Valley and the gateway to the Antisuyo, the Amazon section of the Inca Empire. The town retains its original Inca street layout. Visit the ruins of the fortress, one of the only sites where the Inca held back the invading Spanish.
- Head to the train station and depart to **Aguas Calientes**.

#### Day 6: Machu Picchu

- Experience a world-class adventure climbing Machu Picchu, the undisputed icon of Inca civilization and Perú's most famous visitor destination. Built as an imperial estate in the 15<sup>th</sup> century, the site was unknown to the outside world until an American explorer, Hiram Bingham, chronicled his excursion in 1911. The site includes three main structures: the Intihuatana, the Temple of the Sun, and the Room of the Three Windows.
- After your excursion, depart to Cusco.

#### Day 7: Cusco and Lima

- Set out on a guided walking tour of Cusco, the Imperial City.
   Begin at the Koricancha, an ancient sacred temple dedicated to the sun and the moon.
- Continue to Plaza de Armas, the city's main square, located near the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption of the Virgin and the Jesuit Church of the Society of Jesus.
- End your tour at **San Blas**, a bohemian neighborhood famous for its artisans, shops, and narrow streets.
- Head to the airport and board a short flight to Lima. Upon arrival, enjoy a farewell dinner of typical Peruvian dishes.

## Day 8: Depart to the airport for your flight home.









