



# PERU

## Ultimate Peru: The Amazon and Machu Picchu

13 DAYS | Choose your dates | Best season to travel: **SEP - JUL**

*Achieve two travel milestones on a single adventure that includes Peru's Amazon rainforest and Machu Picchu, the most famous Incan archaeological site. You'll experience the vast biodiversity sheltered among the Amazon's tributaries, lagoons, and forests, exploring by boat and foot. Then, discover the "Lost City of the Incas," Machu Picchu, set in the Andean highlands atop a cluster of humped emerald peaks. Along the way you'll meet the inheritors of Peru's natural and cultural legacy: the native Amazonian and Quechua people who welcome you into their homes. From colorful rubber baron mansions to the mysterious Sacred Valley to the canopy of the world's largest rainforest, this is the total Peru experience.*

### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Experience two of South America's most iconic destinations: the Amazon rainforest and Machu Picchu.
- Discover colonial Cusco and Lima, both UNESCO World Heritage Sites.
- Cruise the Amazon and its oxbow lakes, lagoons and tributaries as you search for monkeys, birds, sloths, river dolphins, and other wildlife.
- Visit the Inca stone fortress at Sacsayhuaman, an engineering marvel.
- Learn about the many facets of native Peruvian life as you explore an Amazonian village and the Quechua towns of the Sacred Valley, meeting schoolchildren, farmers, and craftsmen where they live and work.

### WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- Bilingual local guide
- Driver
- Accommodations
- Activities
- Private transportation
- Meals
- Beverages with meals
- Carbon offsetting





CUSCO BY LAURA HARE

## ITINERARY

BLD = BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

### DAY 1 - LIMA

Upon arrival in Lima, after proceeding through customs and baggage claim, meet your guide/driver and transfer to the hotel. Please note: that this is an international travel day and no meals or program activities are scheduled on this day. Hotel check-in typically begins at 3:00 pm. *Overnight at Casa Andina Select.*

### DAY 2 - IQUITOS

After breakfast, enjoy a talk on the biodiversity of Peru given by a local expert. Then, head out for a visit to the National Museum of the Archaeology, Anthropology, and History of Peru, which houses more than 100,000 artifacts telling the story of human history in this region. Have lunch at a local restaurant, while learning a bit about Peruvian cuisine during a brief presentation. In the afternoon venture on a walking city tour of colonial Lima before transferring to the airport for your 7:00 pm flight to Iquitos. *Overnight at Hotel Doubletree Iquitos. (BL)*

### DAY 3 - AMAZON

After breakfast, tour Iquitos, a bustling river city and the largest city in the Peruvian rainforest, with 600,000 people inhabiting its four districts. During the 20th century, the city attracted many Europeans immigrants who contributed to a period of great wealth, commercial, and social development. Pass through the historic area of the city, where many of the wonderful houses of the 20th century “rubber barons,” including the famous Casa de Fierro (the Iron House) are located. Afterwards, visit the Manatee Rescue Center, a fantastic project committed to saving orphaned manatees and reintroducing them into the wild. Learn about their importance to the world’s ecosystem, and why manatees are critically endangered in this part of the Amazon. Around 5:00

pm, board the *Amazon Star* and set sail for the rainforest! Once on board, participate in an orientation and safety overview followed by a welcome dinner and a briefing on next day’s activities. *Please note: the cruise itinerary is subject to change without prior notice. Overnight aboard Amazon Star. (BLD)*

### DAY 4 - AMAZON

Early this morning, go birding from the bar deck before breakfast in the dining room. This region of the rainforest boasts nearly 900 bird species, exemplary of the Amazon’s abundant biodiversity. Spend the day exploring by boat, and receive an overview of the daily activities in the lecture room. After lunch explore the black waters of the Yarapa River to observe birds, monkeys, bats, and sloths. The Yarapa River’s color comes from the tannins present in decaying vegetation. *Overnight aboard Amazon Star. (BLD)*

### DAY 5 - AMAZON

This morning venture on a boat ride on Yanallpa Creek before breakfast. Afterwards, disembark at a local river village and visit a school to interact with the children and teachers. Take



MACAWS IN THE AMAZON BY PELIN KARACA

a stroll through the village and have the chance to purchase handicrafts made by village artisans. Have lunch aboard the boat and listen to a lecture on the Pacaya Samiria National Reserve, the largest protected area in Peru. Then set out on an afternoon boat exploration on the Dorado River, home to giant river otters. *Overnight aboard Amazon Star. (BLD)*

## DAY 6 - AMAZON

This morning enjoy a picnic breakfast and piranha fishing along the Dorado River. The Amazon River harbors an incredible biodiversity of fish, with over 2,000 species – with many not yet discovered. Following lunch, participate in a cooking class with the ship's chef, who will teach you how to prepare an Amazonian meal of rice and chicken cooked in a leaf. In the afternoon, set out on a boat exploration and optional kayaking at Supay Creek. Here, pygmy marmosets can be seen, as well as raptors, egrets, and herons. *Overnight aboard Amazon Star. (BLD)*

## DAY 7 - SACRED VALLEY

Bid farewell to the Amazon today and transfer to the Iquito Airport via the Nauta Highway with a boxed breakfast en route. The flight to Cusco connects in Lima. Upon arrival, meet your local guide and set out for the Sacred Valley, the heart of the Inca Empire. Along the way, stop at the Awanakancha Alpaca Center, a living museum where visitors can see llamas, alpacas and vicuña. Watch a demonstration showcasing how wool from these South American animals is used to make woven textiles. Continue to the hotel for check-in and dinner. *Overnight at Sonesta Posada del Inca. (BD)*



## DAY 8 - SACRED VALLEY

This morning, visit a local market and learn about the importance of the Sacred Valley as the agricultural epicenter of the Inca Empire, as well as fruits and vegetables that are unique to this region. See the Maras Salt Mines and continue to Chinchero to visit a local weaving community and learn about the ancient traditions that are still practiced by modern-day descendants of the Inca. Enjoy a traditional lunch with members of the weaving community, then end the day with an ancient Pachamama ceremony led by a shaman. *Overnight at Sonesta Posada del Inca. (BLD)*

## DAY 9 - AGUAS CALIENTES

After breakfast take the train to Machu Picchu, traveling along the Urubamba River with spectacular views of the Andes. Upon arrival journey by bus to the Machu Picchu Ruins, and have lunch at local restaurant. Following lunch, tour the ruins on a guided field trip, which includes a site lecture. Dinner at the hotel this evening. *Overnight at Machu Picchu Pueblo. (BLD)*

## DAY 10 - CUSCO

After breakfast set out on a guided excursion around the town of Aguas Calientes with a visit to the local market. Participants who wish to revisit Machu Picchu can skip the morning excursion and use that time to return to the ruins (at an additional cost) on their own. Catch the late morning train to Ollanta, arriving in time for lunch. After lunch visit the Ollantaytambo ruins for a glimpse at the engineering ingenuity of the Inca. Transfer to Cusco and have dinner at the hotel this evening. *Overnight at Hotel Ramada Costa del Sol. (BLD)*

## DAY 11 - CUSCO

After breakfast visit the impressive Sacsayhuaman ruins. The stone fortress at Sacsayhuaman forms the head of the Puma design of old Cusco. Its construction remains a mystery, as the stones used are not found in the region and most of the

blocks weigh more than a ton (the largest weighs 300 tons). Sacsayhuaman was constructed with huge polygonal blocks that interlock with one another so precisely a knife blade cannot be inserted between them. Next, explore Kenko, an Incan archaeological site located a few miles from Cusco. Due to the lack of written records from the time period, the purpose of many Incan ruins remains unknown. However, archaeological evidence suggests that the Inca built Kenko as a “huaca” (holy site) and researchers speculate that death rituals, mummification, and human sacrifice were practiced here. The last stop of the day is Tambomachay. This Inca site was used as a spa for Inca political

elite; aqueducts and canals channel water from a nearby thermal spring into waterfalls that cascade into a small pool. Enjoy typical Cusqueño fare for lunch at a local restaurant. Regroup at the hotel for a presentation by a local expert on the history of Incan and Andean musical instruments, then enjoy a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. *Overnight at Hotel Ramada Costa del Sol. (BLD)*

## DAY 12 - DEPART

Spend the morning exploring colonial Cusco including a visit to the Koricancha Temple and the Cathedral Complex. Have lunch at a local café in the main plaza surrounded by views of the colonial architecture of the city. Enjoy some free time in the afternoon, before transferring to the Cusco airport for the late afternoon flight back to Lima. Upon arrival in Lima, check in for your international flight. There is no hotel night included on this day. (BL)

## DAY 13 - ARRIVAL

Arrive back in the United States.



GIANT RIVER OTTER

## LAND PRICING

**\$5,995** (15 participants + 1 leader)

**\$6,345** (10 participants + 1 leader)

Price includes accommodations, meals, entrance fees, and activities as indicated in the itinerary, internal flights, private transportation unless otherwise noted in itinerary, non-alcoholic beverages with meals, local guides in each region for duration of program, and carbon offset.

International airfare, gratuities, or items of a personal nature are not included.

Valid for travel in 2021.

## TRAVEL PROTECTION

Holbrook Travel purchases Travel Protection on behalf of all participants. These plans help provide coverage once the trip has departed and offer benefits for Baggage/Personal Effects, Accident & Sickness Medical Expenses, Emergency Evacuation and more. Refer to the Plan Document for more details.

Optional additional coverage is available in the form of the Group Deluxe Plan, which offers benefits for Trip Cancellation/Interruption, in addition to many other insurance benefits and non-insurance assistance services. If interested in this optional plan, we can provide you with rates and plan details.

## THE FINE PRINT

*A \$200 per person deposit and enrollment form is due to secure your reservation. This deposit is refundable until 95 days prior to departure excluding a \$100 cancellation fee. Non-refundable final payments are due no later than 95 days prior to departure.*



This program includes optional carbon offsetting with ClimateSafe. Learn more at [holbrooktravel.com/climatesafe](https://holbrooktravel.com/climatesafe)



ACTIVITY LEVEL

3

MODERATE

## WHAT TO EXPECT

This trip showcases two iconic Peruvian landscapes, focusing on nature, archaeology, and culture. In the Amazon, every day includes exploration onboard small, solid skiffs that launch from the deck of your riverboat, and can easily navigate the river. You may sometimes depart early in the morning to see wildlife during their most active period, enjoying breakfast in the skiff. There are also walks in traditional villages. In the Andes, daily walks or hikes of one to two miles are conducted at an easy pace, but in high altitudes between 5,080 and 12,375 feet. To help you acclimate, vehicles and hotels have oxygen tanks. During high season (May–October) there may be long lines at Machu Picchu, where your visit lasts 2–3 hours and includes a walk from the upper citadel to the lower sections, with uneven terrain and many steps. A more relaxed circuit of the lower sections is also available. Depending on the season, mainland temperatures in and around Cusco range from 55°–79° F, with cooler evenings. There can be high humidity, with intermittent fog and rain, any time of the year. In the Amazon, expect hot, humid weather with year-round temperatures in the upper 80s. There are two internal flights and two scenic train transfers.



SACSAYHUAMAN BY LAURA HARE