

Andean Whispers: Lima, Cusco & Sacred Valley -Holiday Special

Lima/ Valle Sagrado/ Machu Picchu/Cusco

December 23-31, 2024

Priced at \$3,315* per person (based on double occupancy)
Single supplement: \$745

MONDAY 23: LIMA

Late arrival.

Upon your arrival to Lima's airport, our representative will be waiting for you. Transfer to your hotel.

Welcome dinner in local restaurant.

Deluxe Room - Manto MGallery Hotel Collection

TUESDAY 24: LIMA

AM - Half day City Tour, visiting Santo Domingo Convent, Casa Aliaga and Barranco

We will begin the visit to Lima visiting the Casa Aliaga, a colonial mansion that currently holds the distinction of being the oldest continuously inhabited private residence in the Southern Hemisphere. Finally, we will stop off at the Main Square, to explore it on foot and admire the exteriors of the Government Palace, the Cathedral, and the City Hall, all examples of Lima's still-present colonial architectural opulence. Then, we go to Santo Domingo Convent, founded in 1540. It is a very special place for the Latin American Catholic community since three personalities who today are Peruvian saints passed through its church and convent. It is the first saint of the Santa Rosa de Lima continent, in addition to San Martín de Porres and San Juan Macias. Inside the church of Santo Domingo, his relics are kept amid a special fervor. It has a beautiful cloister covered with tiles, a library with a collection of 25,000 books and a bell tower, from where you can see the entire city of Lima and the port of Callao. Later, our tour goes to the bohemian neighborhood of Barranco, an area called home by countless artists, photographers, and authors. We will walk along peculiar streets lined with Republican houses, admire the splendid views, and visit the Puente de los Suspiros (Bridge of Sighs), witness to untold numbers of past and present romances, and source of inspiration for one of Peru's great composers, Chabuca Granda. At the end, return to your hotel.

Lunch at local restaurant.

Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch

Deluxe Room - Manto MGallery Hotel Collection

WEDNESDAY 25: LIMA

AM - Visit to Larco museum. Lunch included.

We will head to the Pueblo Libre District and visit the Larco Museum, an eighteenth-century Viceregal mansion that houses more than 3,000 years of Peru's pre-Columbian history. The museum boasts a supremely fine collection of gold and silver jewelry and worship paraphernalia that demonstrates the superb skill of ancient Peruvian gold and silversmiths. The Larco Museum also contains a famous collection of erotic ceramic tomb art that gives insights into various aspects of pre-Columbian sexuality. Lunch at Café del Museo restaurant

Balance day at leisure

Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch

Deluxe Room - Manto MGallery Hotel Collection

THURSDAY 26: LIMA / CUSCO / VALLE SAGRADO

At the scheduled time, transfer to the airport to board your flight to Cusco.

Welcome to Cusco, land of the Incas!

Full day tour to Sacred Valley from the airport: Pisac Market and Pisac Archaeological Park. Lunch at Hacienda Sarapampa

12:00 p.m. Lunch at Hacienda Sarapampa, where host Maria del Pilar Sumar will give us a warm welcome to her home, and we will discover the legacy of three generations of one of the most traditional families of the Sacred Valley. Learn about the generational experiences and the work that lies behind production of Cusco's giant white corn, a unique species that only grows in this area. And finally, enjoy a unique experience in the form of traditional cooking based upon local organic products, the legacy of farmers devoted to their land.

15:00 p.m. A few miles farther along, we will reach Pisac, a beautiful place where Incan and Colonial influences have reached a perfect balance and created the unique way of life of the local inhabitants. You will get a chance to explore this quaint town, famous for its artisan markets where you can find extraordinarily fine jewelry and ceramic and textile craftwork.

Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch

Superior Room - Sonesta Posadas del Inca Yucay

FRIDAY 27: VALLE SAGRADO

AM Urubamba Farmers market, Maras salts pans and Elvira Argandoña, the hat maker.

We will start the day at Urubamba's farmers market, the main supply center of the sacred valley, that will allow us to discover the products of the region. We will continue and visit Maras town to meet Elvira, the youngest of twelve children of Teodosio Argandoña, a very well-known and respected traditional hat maker. This workshop is where her father, Teodosio, worked for nearly half a century of his 70-year career, making and mending the iconic high-crown straw hats of Maras and Elvira has been working to preserve not only her father's craft but a fading piece of Maras tradition.

Visit Community of Corccor and andean lunch

We will enjoy a unique moment in a rural community that has preserved intact its pre-Hispanic ancestral customs, and the villagers will open their doors to you and share their way of life, beliefs, traditions, and culture. We will be warmly welcomed by cheerful villagers and their traditional music and dance. Following this welcome, there'll be plenty of activities to enjoy. At the end of our visit, our private vehicle will be waiting to take us to Lake Piuray, where we will be served an Andean lunch, surrounded by breathtaking scenery.

Meals included: Breakfast & andean lunch.

Superior Room - Sonesta Posadas del Inca Yucay

SATURDAY 28: VALLE SAGRADO / MACHU PICCHU

Full day visit to the Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu departing from the Sacred Valley. Lunch included.

Begin your day with a guided exploration of Ollantaytambo fortress and ceremonial site before embarkation on a scenic train ride along the Urubamba River to the charming town of Aguas Calientes. Upon our arrival, we will board the bus that will take us to the entrance gate of the Machu Picchu citadel. Rediscovered for the modern world by Hiram Bingham more than a century ago, Machu Picchu is considered one of the New Seven Wonders of the Modern World. Its architectural beauty, its spectacular natural setting, and the energy contained in its enigmatic structures, are truly breathtaking. Here, we will follow in the footsteps of the Incas on a tour of this magical citadel, accompanied by our expert guide.

Dinner at hotel.

Meals included: Breakfast, lunch & Dinner.

Superior Deluxe Room - El Mapi Hotel Machu Picchu by Inkaterra

SUNDAY 29: MACHU PICCHU / CUSCO

After breakfast at the hotel.

Talk to your guide or hotel reception for more information. Located just outside of the hotel is a wonderful local market with handicrafts, clothing and much more.

Private transfer Ollanta train station to your hotel in Cusco

Upon your arrival in Ollanta, we will meet you at the train station to transfer you to your accommodation.

Lunch in Aguas Calientes before the return train ride to Ollantaytambo (approximately 1.5 hours) and a scenic sunset drive back to your hotel in Cusco (approximately 1.5 hours).

As night falls and you arrive amidst the hustle and bustle of the city, you will be touched by a feeling of peace and rejuvenation that will linger long after your journey home.

Private transfer Ollanta train station to your hotel in Cusco

Upon your arrival in Ollanta, we will meet you at the train station to transfer you to your accommodation.

Meals included: Breakfast, lunch.

Standard Room - Novotel Cusco

MONDAY 30: CUSCO

PVT HD Sacsayhuaman + (Florencia y Fortunata) + Qoricancha + Catedral

Today, we'll immerse ourselves in the monumental area of Cusco city, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Our exploration begins at the main plaza where the impressive Cathedral stands. This magnificent place features stunning atriums and precious paintings from the 17th and 18th centuries, showcasing the artistry of the Cusco school. We will make a quick stop at Florencia & Fortunata Specialty coffee shop. Peru ranks among the world's top coffee exporters, yet the spotlight typically shines on producers and farmers. Our next stop introduces us to Carolina Peralta, the visionary behind an initiative that seeks to emphasize the crucial role women play in the coffee-making process at her establishment. Here, they exclusively serve coffee produced by women. Carolina, the driving force behind this endeavor, personally prepares lattes using coffee harvested and roasted by specific women, proudly displaying their names and regions of origin. Nestled in the heart of the Imperial City, Florencia and Fortunata not only educate patrons about coffee but also pay homage to the remarkable women who contribute to the coffee industry.

Next, we'll head to the majestic Sacsayhuamán fortress, a colossal building, crafted from intricately carved massive stones, stands as a testament to Inca military architecture, among the largest in Tahuantinsuyo.

Lunch will be served at a local restaurant, and the rest of the day is at leisure.

Meals included: Breakfast, lunch.

Standard Room - Novotel Cusco

TUESDAY 31: CUSCO / LIMA/HOME

Private transfer from your hotel to Cusco's airport

At the appropriate time we will transfer you from the hotel to Cusco airport.

Flight to Lima (not included).

Meals included: Breakfast.

HOTELS QUOTED

Lima

Manto MGallery Hotel Collection

Room Type: Deluxe

Food Type: Buffet breakfast

Valle Sagrado

Sonesta Posadas del Inca Yucay

Room Type: Superior

Food Type: Buffet breakfast

Machu Picchu

El Mapi Hotel Machu Picchu by Inkaterra

Room Type: Superior Deluxe

Food Type: Buffet breakfast, dinner a la carte

Cusco

Novotel Cusco

Room Type: Standard

Food Type: Buffet breakfast, buffet breakfast

INCLUDES

- Professional local English-speaking guide
- Transfers and excursions on private services
 - Hotel accommodation including breakfast
 - All meals mentioned in the itinerary
 - Entrance fee to Machu Picchu and bus tickets (round trip)
 - Train Vistadome to / from Machu Picchu
- Guide overnights with the group in Sacred Valley and Aguas Calientes

**Flights not included. To book your space, a deposit of \$600 is required, of which \$350 is non refundable.*