TRAVEL ITINERARY

Classic Peru with the Amazon Jungle

Itinerary in a nutshell

This classic itinerary introduces discerning travellers to the must-see highlights of Peru – immersing you in their history, culture and natural terrain. Enjoy a journey of discovery from the coastal metropolis of Lima, to the depths of the Amazon rainforest, to the heights of the Andes. Experience the majesty of Machu Picchu, the ancient Inca citadel that's top of many travellers' bucket lists. This itinerary is carefully paced, with hand-selected activities and visits, accompanied by expert guides to offer you a memorable trip of a lifetime.

By Amigos Travel

13 days | 12 nights

Why you'll love this itinerary

- Discover the architectural delights of Lima, Peru's coastal capital city.
- Explore the biodiversity of the Amazon rainforest, staying at a secluded jungle lodge.
- Enjoy two visits to the iconic Inca citadel of Machu Picchu, including a guided tour.
- Browse the colourful textile markets in the Sacred Valley town of Pisac.
- Wander the cobbled streets of Cuzco, once the epicentre of the Inca Empire.

DAY 1 Arrive Lima

On arrival into Lima you will be met and *privately* transferred to your hotel for three nights.

DAY 2 Lima

This morning you will be taken on a *shared* city tour of Greater Lima. You will be taken to visit the three distinct historical periods of the city: Pre-Columbian, Colonial and Modern. The tour visits the Santo Domingo Convent, the Government Palace and the Plaza de Armas. You will then drive by the elegant residential tree-lined avenues of San Isidro Miraflores to Parque Salazar to enjoy spectacular views of the western side of the Pacific Ocean. (B)

DAY 3 Lima

This morning you will visit one of Lima's symbolic markets on a *shared* tour. Here you can appreciate the amazing variety of fish, exotic fruit and vegetables used in Peruvian food. You will pass by the Huaca Pucllana, a massive 2000 year old adobe pyramid which has recently been painstakingly restored. It is built with seven staggered platforms and served as an important ceremonial and administrative center of the ancient civilization that inhabited the Central Coast of Peru. You then visit the Larco Herrera Museum, regarded as Peru's best museum showcasing the ancient culture of Peru. It is a privately owned museum located in an 18th-Century vice-royal building built over a 7th-Century pre-Columbian pyramid. (B)

DAY 4 Lima / Iquitos / Amazon Jungle

This morning you will be met and *privately* transferred to the airport your flight to Iquitos, deep in the Amazon Basin. You will be met on arrival in Iquitos and transferred to the river where you will board your speed boat that takes you to your remote Jungle Lodge. Enroute to the lodge, you pass the jungle town of Indiana. Originally a Franciscan mission, Indiana has grown into a large river community with its own market, high school and small hospital. Your lodge is located down the Amazon River from Iquitos and deep in primary jungle. Your stay here is for three nights. This afternoon you will hike in the beautiful primary rainforest reserve which includes many huge trees festooned with epiphytes. After dinner there may be local flute or guitar music for you to enjoy at the "jungle" bar while you listen to guides relating some of the many legends of the Amazon forest. (BLD) **The details and order of activities in the Amazon may change due to weather conditions and any specific interests you have.*

DAY 5 Amazon Jungle – Canopy Walkway

Early this morning you will travel by boat on a full day excursion down the Amazon and up the Napo River, one of the Amazons major tributaries to the Sucusari Reserve. Here you can climb and walk the Amazon Canopy Walkway, one of the longest treetop walkways in the world through primary rainforest in an area named by scientists as the "Biodiversity Capital of the World". You will walk through virgin forest with its canopy of vegetation embellished with wild orchids and bromeliads. The birdlife is particularly rich in this area and you may see monkeys and marmosets. Your expert guide will highlight the various plant, animal and bird life of the jungle. The local Shaman will explain the medicinal properties of many of the Amazonian plant species that are used by the locals. You then return by boat back to the lodge for dinner. (BLD)

DAY 6 Amazon Jungle

After breakfast this morning you will have a morning boat ride to look for the pink and grey freshwater dolphins and fish for piranha. This afternoon you may choose to hike with your guide in the beautiful primary rain forest reserve surrounding the lodge which includes many huge trees festooned with epiphytes. (BLD)

DAY 7 Amazon Jungle / Iquitos / Cuzco / Sacred Valley of the Incas

Today you will be transferred back to Iquitos to for your flight to Cuzco, the Inca Capital. On arrival in Cuzco you are met and driven by a *private* car to a lower altitude in the Sacred Valley of the Incas, where you have accommodation for two nights. The remainder of your day is at leisure to recover from your flight. You might like to wander and enjoy your hotel's magnificent gardens. (B)

DAY 8 Sacred Valley of the Incas - Pisac Markets & Ollantaytambo

This morning you will be taken on a *shared* tour to visit a famous site situated here: the Inca Fortress of Ollantaytambo. You then continue to the famous and traditional Indian Market of Pisac where you have time to bargain with the local Indians for their fabulous artefacts and weavings. After lunch you continue back to your hotel where your afternoon is at leisure. (BL)

DAY 9 Sacred Valley of the Incas / Ollanta / Machu Picchu / Aguas Calientes

After breakfast you are *privately* transferred to Ollanta Train Station where you join the Vistadome Train, on one of the world's 'great train journeys' following the Urubamba River. On arrival at Aguas Calientes train station, you are assisted in the change to the shuttle bus service, for the 25 minute transfer up the side of the mountain to Machu Picchu, also known as the "Lost City of the Incas" and undoubtedly the best known and the most spectacular archeological site on the continent. You are taken on a guided tour of the ruins visiting the Main Square, the Royal Quarters, the Temple of the Three Windows, the Circular Towers, the Sacred Sun Dial and the Burial Grounds. Your lunch is provided at the *Sanctuary Lodge* this afternoon. This evening please enjoy a lovely dinner at your hotel. (BLD)

DAY 10 Aguas Calientes / Ollanta / Cuzco

You have another entry to Machu Picchu this morning, you may choose to climb to Huayna Picchu. *(Must be booked in advance)* Huayna Picchu (on which there are also some more Inca ruins) is the mountain overlooking the site and has steps to the top for a superlative view of the whole area. Your second entry to Machu Picchu, & Huayna Picchu permits are included. This afternoon please make your way back to the train station for the Vistadome Train to Ollanta. On arrival you are met and *privately* driven to Cuzco, to your hotel where you stay for three fabulous nights. (B)

DAY 11 Cuzco

Cuzco is the archaeological capital of the Americas and the continent's oldest continuously inhabited city. Massive Inca-built stone walls line most of Cuzco's central streets to form the foundations of Colonial and modern buildings. The streets are often stepped and narrow and thronged with Quechuaspeaking descendants of the Incas. This morning you are taken on a comprehensive *shared* tour of Cuzco that includes the Main Cathedral, the Plaza de Armas, the Temple of the Sun (Koricancha), as well as other city highlights, such as the local markets. The tour then visits one of the other very important Inca Ruins in the area outside Cuzco: Sacsayhuaman. Your afternoon is at leisure. (B)

DAY 12 Cuzco

Enjoy a day at leisure in this charming little city. (B)

DAY 13 Cuzco / Onward Flight

This morning you will be collected from your hotel and *privately* transferred to the airport for your onward flight. (B)

TOUR COST IN AUSTRALIAN DOLLARS:

TOURIST CLASS SHARED TOURS: from AU\$5, 055 PER PERSON TWIN SHARE SUPERIOR CLASS SHARED TOURS: from AU\$5,865 PER PERSON TWIN SHARE DELUXE CLASS SHARED TOURS: from AU\$7,365 PER PERSON TWIN SHARE UPGRADE ANY OF THE ABOVE PACKAGES TO ENJOY PRIVATE TOURS: from AU\$550 PER PERSON

Please note that costs have been based on the current value of the dollar against the US dollar (approx: 0.70) If we should see a considerable drop in the value of the dollar, we may need to increase the rates. In order to secure your costs, and should you decide to travel we would recommend paying for your airfares & land arrangements in full to avoid any increase in costs.

Your Amigos Travel Holiday includes:

- * Accommodation in standard, superior or deluxe-class hotels with private facilities. (except the Amazon which is basic, but still with private facilities).
- * All *private* airport transfers as described with English speaking guides.
- * All *shared or private* sightseeing tours in as described with English speaking guides.
- * All admission fees on such tours.
- * Meals as indicated: (B = breakfast L = lunch D = dinner).
- * All ground transportation as described.
- * All touring vessels.

Not included:

- * Airfares. (Please ask us about the Airpass if flying in and out of South America with Latam)
- * Excess baggage.
- * Beverages.
- * Items of a personal nature.
- * Travel insurance.
- * Passport & visa costs.
- * Tipping.

How to Reserve Your Place on this Tour:

- * Please telephone 1300 AMIGOS or email office@amigostravel.com.au
- * Our booking form and booking conditions for the tour are attached. Please complete this form and return it with your deposit of 10% per person to secure your place.
- * On receipt of your deposit and booking application form, we will then forward additional pre- departure information regarding visas, medical requirements and much more.
- * We can arrange your travel insurance if you wish.
- * Payment of your tour balance is then required 90 days before your departure.

"Feliz viaje" or happy travelling!