

GRAND SOUTHERN PERU EXPEDITION

February 3, 2016

21 DAYS IN MAY/JUNE - MAY 21-JUNE 10, 2016

Day-by-Day Detail

Day 1 (Saturday, May 21st): Welcome to Peru!

Arrival in Lima

You will find us waiting for you when your international flight arrives in the early morning of May 22th at the Lima airport. Look for the Kuoda sign with your name and the smile. We will escort you to your hotel, check you in and help you get settled. You'll then be able to rinse away the feeling of a long flight and enjoy a good night's rest!

Accommodation: CASA INCA BOUTIQUE HOTEL

Meals: None

Day 2 (Sunday, May 22nd): Explore Lima!

Free day in Lima. Explore Miraflores

Overlooking the Pacific, this modern district of Lima is incredibly hip! You can enjoy the seaside parks, visit boutiques and enjoy delicious criolla food like fresh, citrusy cebiche or causa – an incredible combination of spicy mashed potatoes and creamy seafood filling! In the evening, consider hearing hot Afro-Peruvian music in one of Barranco's peñas.

Accommodation: CASA INCA BOUTIQUE HOTEL

Meals: Breakfast

Day 3 (Monday, May 23rd): From Lima to the White City

Flight from Lima to Arequipa and a Private Tour of the City

You will wake up refreshed and enjoy a complimentary buffet breakfast in the hotel before we escort you to the airport for your morning flight to Arequipa. We will be waiting for you when touch down and will bring you to your hotel.

In the afternoon, your guide will meet you for a private tour of Arequipa. – “the white city.” You'll stroll through the shining center of town – with many buildings made from a white volcanic rock called sillar, giving the city its nickname – until you arrive at the Andean Sanctuary Museum, where you can gaze upon the famous ice-mummy, Juanita.

You'll continue to the 16th century convent of Santa Catalina, which seems to be a jewel of a city within a city. Finally, you'll visit the main square of Yanahuara, with its famous panorama of Arequipa and the distant Misti Volcano.

Your guide will then take you back to your hotel, where you can rest your feet and enjoy a relaxing evening!

Accommodation: CASA ANDINA CLASSIC AREQUIPA JERUSALÉN

Meals: Breakfast

GRAND SOUTHERN PERU EXPEDITION

February 3, 2016

21 DAYS IN MAY/JUNE - MAY 21-JUNE 10, 2016

Day 4 (Tuesday, May 24th): Toward Colca Canyon

Journey to Chivay, Sightseeing as You Go

After a relaxed breakfast, your private guide and driver will pick you up for a scenic drive to the town of Chivay. This will be your jumping-off point for the Colca Canyon.

Today's drive takes us through breathtaking landscapes and makes stops to mingle with Peru's camelids at Pampa Cañahuas, to flock with migratory birds at Bofedales de Toccra and finally to gaze on Arequipa's surrounding volcanoes at the outlook of Patapampa. As you look out to the snow-capped peaks of the Misti, Hualca-Hualca and Ubinas Volcanoes, breathe deeply and feel the peace of taking in something completely new!

When we arrive in Chivay, we will make our way to your hotel. In the afternoon you can choose to simply relax or to adventure off to the hot springs of Calera. Hot springs are an excellent option as the locals attribute healing properties to the soothing waters.

Accommodation: POZO DEL CIELO COLCA HOTEL

Meals: Breakfast

Day 5 (Wednesday, May 25th): Explore the Colca Canyon

A Private Tour of Colca Canyon

Early in the morning, your guide will bring you to Condor's Cross, where you can observe the depths of the Colca Canyon and watch the majestic flight of the giant Andean condor. You'll also visit villages in the Colca Valley, where you'll revel in the colorful local dress and friendly faces!

Free afternoon to rest, relax or explore the beautiful Colca Canyon on your own.

Accommodation: POZO DEL CIELO COLCA HOTEL

Meals: Breakfast

Day 6 (Thursday, May 26th): Canyon, Condors and the Road to Puno

A Road Trip to Puno

You'll depart Chivay with your private driver. The five-hour drive to Puno is through such beautiful country, the time will pass like nothing! Your Kuoda Puno host will check you into your hotel upon arrival.

Accommodation: QELQATANI HOTEL

Meals: Breakfast, Box Lunch

GRAND SOUTHERN PERU EXPEDITION

February 3, 2016

21 DAYS IN MAY/JUNE - MAY 21-JUNE 10, 2016

Day 7 (Friday, May 27th): Family Tombs and the Lake at the Top of the World

Visit to Local Community of Atuncolla and visit the Towers of Sillustani

The group leaves Puno at 8:00 am, with their guide, to the town of Atuncolla where they will stop to contact a local guide. The guide will accompany them in a walk for roughly an hour and a half to the town of Cacsi, where they will participate in activities with the children in the school (for example, reading stories, drawing, painting, and playing). Meanwhile, the host families prepare grilled potatoes for the guests in an earth oven or with rocks. After activities with the children, the group will enjoy a snack of cooked potatoes and later leaves for a ride on the fishing boats in the Umayo lagoon to the island of Umayo where they will see vicuñas in their natural habitat.

Next, the boats will take them to the pier of Sillustani where they will dock to visit the Funeral Towers of Sillustani. Upon finishing the visit, the group will return to their transport service and travel to Atuncolla, where they will have lunch, and later continue to Puno.

Accommodation: QELQATANI HOTEL

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Day 8 (Saturday, May 28th): Lake Titicaca's Magical Islands

A Boat Tour of the Uros Floating Islands and Taquile

Today, you will visit Titicaca's islands by boat. Lake Titicaca, at 12,500 ft. above sea level is the world's highest navigable lake. This means that even when the sun shines, the wind can be chilly, so be sure to dress warmly!

The Your boat will take you out through the bay of Puno, past banks of reeds to the incredible floating islands of Uros. For hundreds of years, the people living here have constructed these small islands by hand from the local totora reed and they continually refresh the island floor. Their houses and boats are also cleverly constructed of the reed. You will have a chance to feel the rise and fall of the islands in the water and to chat with these ingenious people about their way of life! Perhaps, you can even take a trip on a reed boat.

You will next motor to the large natural island of Taquile. Outside the Bay of Puno, Taquile seems almost Mediterranean, with grassy cliffs falling toward the blue water. The residents of the island are incredibly friendly and will explain how their chullos (earflap hats) distinguish married men from those who are single!

In the afternoon, the boat will slowly bring you back to Puno. Let yourself be lulled by the waves and the sun. You will then be driven back to your hotel for the evening.

Accommodation: QELQATANI HOTEL

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

GRAND SOUTHERN PERU EXPEDITION

February 3, 2016

21 DAYS IN MAY/JUNE - MAY 21-JUNE 10, 2016

Day 9 (Sunday, May 29th): Over the Altiplano to Cusco

A Sightseeing Tour by Bus from Puno to Cusco (SHARED GROUP)

After breakfast, you will embark on a guided bus tour that will take you from Puno to Cusco. Along the way, you'll stop at the key points of interest that dot this breathtaking route.

You'll pass La Raya– the highest point on your route. Surrounded by glorious snow-covered mountains and buffeted by chilly winds, you'll marvel at the artisans who offer their wares at the roadside market. You will also visit a pre-Inca site at Pukara. You will see the Inca outpost of Raqchi. Constructed on the Inca frontier, the stone and mud brick walls of the town were meant to repel Southern invaders.

You will visit the church in the tiny town of Andahuaylillas. Adorned with beautiful frescoes, gold leaf and incredible wood sculpture, this church is considered the "Sistine chapel of the Americas."

At the end of the day, you'll see rustic suburbs transform into the historic center of Cusco! We will meet you as you exit the bus in Cusco and bring you to your hotel, where you'll be able to take a hot shower and put your feet up, watching the lights start to twinkle on the hills around the city!

Accommodation: MAYTAQ WASIN BOUTIQUE HOTEL

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Day 10 (Monday, May 30th): Visiting the Agricultural

Curious Ruins, Ancient Salt Mines, and Our Friends in a Local Community

After breakfast at your hotel you will visit the Inca ruins at Moray. Some experts today believe these ancient amphitheaters once served as an agricultural laboratory, but nobody has been able to prove anything! Form your own hypothesis as you peek into these fascinating concentric terraces. We will continue through the small town of Maras, which boasts beautiful colonial doorways, before arriving at the unbelievable salt pans. Still in-use, each of the thousands of flat white pools that terrace the hillside has been passed down through families since pre-Incan times. The intricate network of waterways and white evaporation pools seems like a work of modern art.

After lunch, we will take you to visit our friends in a small Sacred Valley village. Hugging the shore of the breathtakingly blue Lake Piuray, agriculture dominates life in this close-knit place. The women of the village are weaving masters, using ancient techniques, materials and patterns. They will happily explain their craft to you. You will also meet some of the local children who attend Kuoda's after-school program. The kids love to show off their drawings and computer skills! At the end of the day, we will return to your hotel.

Accommodation: HOTEL SAN AGUSTIN URUBAMBA & SPA Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

GRAND SOUTHERN PERU EXPEDITION

February 3, 2016

21 DAYS IN MAY/JUNE - MAY 21-JUNE 10, 2016

Day 11 (Tuesday, May 31st): Delving Into Past and Present in the Sacred Valley

Private Tour of Pisac's Inca Ruins and Free time to Explore the Artisan Market

Today, you will experience the wonderful combination of past and present that makes Peru so very fascinating.

We will take you to the small valley town of Pisac where you will visit the incredible Inca ruins perched on the ridge over the town. You will be able to gaze down upon agricultural terraces where the Incas cultivated corn and developed thousands of varieties of potato.

Then, stroll through the native village and its colorful artisan market. From hand-made textiles to exquisite ceramics, there is something for everyone. You will enjoy a Sacred Valley lunch lovingly made with fresh local ingredients, before returning to your hotel for an afternoon of relaxation.

Accommodation: HOTEL SAN AGUSTIN URUBAMBA & SPA

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Day 12 (Wednesday, June 01st): The Lost City of the Incas: Machu Picchu

Private Tour of Machu Picchu

Prepare for a climactic day! In the morning, we will board the Vistadome train in Ollantaytambo for our journey to Machu Picchu. Watch the cloud jungle pass by through the large glass windows! A bus will take us to the gates of this Wonder of the World.

You will then ascend stone steps, through heavy tree cover to finally emerge at the top of the world – Machu Picchu! The incredible Inca stone construction will be spread below, alternately hidden and revealed by

clouds. Your expert guide will give you a private tour of the ancient city. After a savory lunch at the Sanctuary Lodge, you can re-enter the citadel to explore on your own or return with your guide.

You will descend down the mountain by bus for an evening in Aguas Calientes, and your guide will give you advice about how you might use your following free day. Enjoy an excellent on-site dinner at your hotel, and fall asleep to the sounds of the Urubamba River below.

Accommodation: EL MAPI HOTEL

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

GRAND SOUTHERN PERU EXPEDITION

February 3, 2016

21 DAYS IN MAY/JUNE - MAY 21-JUNE 10, 2016

Day 13 (Thursday, June 02nd): Machu Picchu on Your Terms

A Free Day to Explore the Ancient City at Your Own Pace

This is your day to relax and enjoy Machu Picchu. The adventurous can climb to the citadel from town or hike the steep Huayna Picchu for the postcard view of the city. We recommend planning an early day – seeing the mist clear over Machu Picchu during the last rays of the sunrise is not to be missed! Entrances to Machu Picchu, Huayna Picchu, as well as round-trip bus tickets, are included today.

In the afternoon, you will descend to Aguas Calientes for your return train. We will be waiting in the station for you and will bring you to your hotel in Cusco for a good night's rest.

Accommodation: MAYTAQ WASIN BOUTIQUE HOTEL

Meals: Breakfast

Day 14 (Friday, June 03rd): Exploring the Imperial City of Cusco

Private Walking Tour of Cusco

Your guide will meet you after breakfast and proceed to illuminate the glorious past of Cusco!

From the Santo Domingo monastery, built on top of the ancient Inca temple of the sun, to the fascinating Pre-Columbian Art Museum, you will learn about the astonishing mix that is Cusco. You will visit beautiful Bohemian San Blas, see where the locals shop at the open-air San Pedro market and pass the famous 12-angled Inca stone that has become the brand symbol for Cusqueña beer.

Accommodation: MAYTAQ WASIN BOUTIQUE HOTEL

Meals: Breakfast

Day 15 (Saturday, June 04th): Free day in Cusco

Free time to explore Cusco

Explore our vibrant city on your own!

Today will be your free day to explore Cusco. Visit the San Blas Artisan area, one of the many beautiful Colonial Churches, or just relax and soak up the atmosphere and excitement of being in a new place!

Accommodation: MAYTAQ WASIN BOUTIQUE HOTEL

Meals: Breakfast

GRAND SOUTHERN PERU EXPEDITION

February 3, 2016

21 DAYS IN MAY/JUNE - MAY 21-JUNE 10, 2016

Day 16 (Sunday, June 05th): Into the Jungle

Flight to Puerto Maldonado. Boat to Your Lodge in the Tambopata Jungle

You will wake up refreshed and enjoy breakfast in the hotel before we escort you to the airport for your morning flight to Puerto Maldonado.

Arrival & Reception by Guide

Our guides are biologists, tourism professionals, or community members. Unless noted otherwise, our guides speak English. We assign guides at 10:1 ratio in Refugio Amazonas. This means groups smaller than 10 people will be merged with other groups under one guide. If you would like a private guide or a guide in a language other than English please let us know.

Transfer Airport to Puerto Maldonado Headquarters

Upon arrival from Lima or Cusco, we will welcome you at the airport and drive you ten minutes to our Puerto Maldonado headquarters. While enjoying your first taste of the forest in our gardens we will ask you to pack only the necessary gear for your next few days, and leave the rest at our safe deposit. This helps us keep the boats and cargo light.

Transfer Pto Maldonado Headquarters to Tambopata River Port

Skirting Puerto Maldonado, we drive 20 kilometers to the Tambopata River Port, entering the Native Community of Infierno. The port is a communal business.

Transfer Boat - Tambopata River Port to Refugio Amazonas

The two and a half hour boat ride from the Tambopata Port to Refugio Amazonas will take us past the Community of Infierno and the Tambopata National Reserve's checkpoint and into the buffer zone of this 1.3 million hectare conservation unit.

Boxed Lunch

Orientation

Upon arrival, the lodge manager will welcome you and brief you with important navigation and security tips.

Dinner

Caiman Search

We will be out at the river's edge at night, scanning the shores with headlamps and flashlights to catch the red gleams of reflection from caiman eyes.

Accommodation: REFUGIO AMAZONAS BY RAINFORESTS EXPEDITIONS

Meals Included: Breakfast, Box Lunch, Dinner

GRAND SOUTHERN PERU EXPEDITION

February 3, 2016

21 DAYS IN MAY/JUNE - MAY 21-JUNE 10, 2016

Day 17 (Monday, June 06th): River Otters, Canopy Views and Jungle Plants

A Day of Jungle Activities

Oxbow Lake Visit

We will paddle around the lake on a canoe or a catamaran, looking for lakeside wildlife such as hoatzin, caiman and horned screamers, hoping to see the otters which are infrequently seen here. You will also be rewarded with overhead sightings of macaws.

Canopy Tower

A thirty minute walk from Refugio Amazonas leads to the 25 meter scaffolding canopy tower. A bannistered staircase running through the middle provides safe access to the platforms above. The tower has been built upon high ground, therefore increasing your horizon of the continuous primary forest extending out towards the Tambopata National Reserve. From here views of mixed species canopy flocks as well as toucans, macaws and raptors are likely.

Lunch

Farm Visit

Five minutes downriver from the lodge lies a farm owned and managed by charismatic Don Manuel from the neighbouring community of Condénado. He grows a variety of popular and unknown Amazon crops - just about every plant and tree you see serves a purpose.

Ethnobotanical Tour

Along this trail we will find a variety of plants and trees that are used by the local population with at least the same variety of purposes. We will learn about the medicinal (and other) uses of Ajo-Sacha, Yuca de Venado, Uña de Gato, Charcot-Sacha, Para-Para, among several others.

Dinner

Tambopata National Reserve Lectures

Nightly lectures prepared by the staff of Refugio Amazonas cover conservation threats, opportunities and projects in the Tambopata National Reserve.

Accommodation: REFUGIO AMAZONAS BY RAINFORESTS EXPEDITIONS

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

GRAND SOUTHERN PERU EXPEDITION

February 3, 2016

21 DAYS IN MAY/JUNE - MAY 21-JUNE 10, 2016

Day 18 (Tuesday, June 07th): Parakeets and Peccary!

A Day of Jungle Activities

Parrot Clay Lick

A fifteen minute boat ride and sixty minute walk from Refugio Amazonas is a clay lick used both by parrots and parakeets. From a blind you will see parrots and parakeets descend on most clear days to ingest the clay on a bank. Species such as Dusky headed and Cobalt winged Parakeet descend at this clay lick. With luck we will also see some or all of the following species in the early morning rush: Mealy and Yellow-crowned Amazons, Blue-headed Pionus, Severe macaw and Orange-cheeled (Barraband`s) Parrot. We visit the lick at dawn, when parrots are most active or in midmorning or early afternoon, when they are active.

Lunch

Brazil Nut Trail and Camp

A few minutes hike from the lodge is a beautiful old growth patch of Brazil Nut forest that has been harvested for decades (if not centuries) where the precarious remains of a camp used two months a year by Brazil Nut gatherers can still be experienced. We will be demonstrating the whole process of the rain forest's only sustainably harvested product from collection through transportation to drying.

Mammal Clay Lick

Twenty minutes walking from Refugio Amazonas is a peccary clay lick. These wild rain forest pigs show up in herds of five to twenty individuals to eat clay in the late morning. Chances of spotting them are around 15%, but well worth the short hike. Other wildlife also shows up including deer, guan and parakeets.

Dinner

Night walk

You will have the option of hiking out at night, when most of the mammals are active but difficult to see. Easier to find are frogs with shapes and sounds as bizarre as their natural histories.

Accommodation: REFUGIO AMAZONAS BY RAINFORESTS EXPEDITIONS

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

GRAND SOUTHERN PERU EXPEDITION

February 3, 2016

21 DAYS IN MAY/JUNE - MAY 21-JUNE 10, 2016

Day 19 (Wednesday, June 08th): Back to Urban Modernity

Boat to Puerto Maldonado & Fly to Lima

After breakfast, we will escort you to the Puerto Maldonado airport for your morning flight to Lima. We'll gather your luggage and help you board the plane. When you touch down in Lima, we'll be waiting for you!

Your Kuoda Lima host will be waiting for you at the airport, and will help you store your luggage at the Lima airport should you choose. They will then transfer you to the modern, beachside district of Miraflores.

Accommodation: CASA INCA BOUTIQUE HOTEL Meals Included: Breakfast

Day 20 (Thursday, June 09th): Tour of Lima & Homeward Bound

Private Guided Tour of Lima & International Flight Home

After a nice breakfast, we will take a private tour of Lima that will bring you to the beautiful colonial center of the city.

You will visit the Lima Cathedral and the Convent of San Francisco. The catacombs under the convent house the skeletal remains of much of colonial Lima! We will also visit Casa Aliaga, a 1535 mansion - it is one of the oldest mansions in the New World and has been occupied by the Aliaga family since its construction.

Visit the Larco Herrera museum that showcases 3000 years of Peruvian pre-Colombian history, the finest silver and gold collection and the famous erotic archaeological collection. Surrounded by beautiful gardens, Larco Herrera is one of the most visited tour attractions and unique in that visitors can also enter the storage area that contains 45,000 archaeological objects.

Enjoy the best of Peruvian cuisine in the terrace of an old chateau at the restaurant Cafe del Museo.

Lastly, we will take you back to your hotel. Your guide can suggest some great places to see and dine within walking distance since you will be close to the center of Miraflores!

At the appropriate time, we will meet you and bring you to the Lima airport for your journey home.

Accommodation for Day Use: CASA INCA BOUTIQUE HOTEL