

TOURISM IN PERU – FACT SHEET

Peru is located in the west of South America, and has borders with Ecuador, Colombia, Brazil, Bolivia and Chile. It has sovereignty over 1,285,215 km² of land and 200 nautical miles of the Pacific Ocean, as well as 60 million hectares of the Antarctic.

Peru is an extremely diverse country, with 11 ecological regions and 84 of the world's 117 different types of "life zone". It has a huge variety of scenery thanks to its geography, which also provides it with a wide range of natural resources. The country has 3 main regions according to the traditional method of dividing the country by altitude: coast, mountains and jungle.

DO I NEED A VISA TO VISIT PERU?

Citizens of most American and Western European countries are not required visa to enter Peru. Citizens of Bolivia, Ecuador and Chile do not require passports or visa to visit certain regions of Peru. Contact the Peruvian diplomatic representative in your country for further information. Addresses and phone numbers are included in the website of Peru's Ministry of Foreign Relations: www.rree.gob.pe

If the purpose of your visit is tourism, the maximum length of your stay will be 90 days (you can apply for extensions with the immigration authority)

All travelers must carry a valid passport, or a safe-conduct issued by the Peruvian immigration authority.

IS IT SAFE TO TRAVEL IN PERU?

Reality shows that it is very safe. You may have read or heard on TV, websites or newspapers about terrorism, crime and economic and political instability. But the truth is that terrorism has been defeated a long time ago; Peruvians live in peace and work very hard every day to build and democratic and safe society. We can assure visitors that all they need to do is follow the normal precautions taken in order to visit other destinations.

FOOD

Food is one of Peru staples, and we want you to enjoy it. We will include a list of recommended restaurants and please ask our reservations team for more recommendations we will gladly recommend options based on your preferences. For more information on our food and our culinary tour, do not hesitate to contact us. If you have to eat in a restaurant that you do not know and we have not recommended, we suggest playing on the safe and only eating well-cooked meats and fish, preferably served hot. Avoid pork, raw salads and mayonnaise as well as uncooked vegetables and unpeeled fruit. Avoid food served by street vendors. Eat lightly during your first day in Lima, Cusco and Puno.

BOTTLED WATER

Drinking bottled water is highly recommended. Try NOT to drink tap water. Public water is chlorinated and relatively safe but may cause mild stomach upset to people not used to Peruvian water. We also recommend brushing your teeth with bottle water, we found that people that do so have less incidence of upset stomachs. While bathing or showering, try to avoid water into your mouth. Bottled water is found in stores and shops while traveling. If one bottle is not sufficient, water is sold throughout the country.

TIPS

You can tip the guides, waiters and people who help you with the luggage. They usually expect to receive some tip, but please feel free to give them what you think they deserve. Tips are not mandatory. All gratuities may be paid in US Dollars or Peruvian Soles. If you have some Peruvian soles remaining on the last day of travel, use them for last minute airport purchases, as part of your gratuity to our guide, or as departure tax. Here is some suggested tipping:

- ✓ Tour Conductor (may or may not act as a guide): US\$5 per person per day
- ✓ Driver (Provides chauffeur services and limited assistance with luggage): US\$1 per person per day
- ✓ Local Guides (Offers in-depth information at specific locations. There may be one or many guides along a tour program): \$4 per person per day of sightseeing.
- ✓ Hotel Porters (usually included) US\$ 50¢ per bag per person.
- ✓ Wait staff: 10% of meal. If meal is included you can leave S/5-10 soles for your party
- ✓ Chamber maid: US\$1.00 per day.
- ✓ Inca Trail Porters. Tips are not mandatory but they expect to receive them. The tips will depend on the group size, but you can consider between US\$ 20 to US\$ 40 per person that will be shared between all the porters.
- ✓ Inca trail guide, we suggest between US\$ 15 to US\$ 30 per person

WHAT'S THE WEATHER LIKE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR?

Peru is a very large country that is crossed by the Andes and has a vast Amazonian region, so you are likely to notice differences from one place to the other, which may be more or less intense depending on the month of your visit. It hardly ever rains on the coast, where there are usually two seasons: a warm season and a cold season.

- ✓ The warm season runs from November 15th until the end of March.
- ✓ The cold season occurs from April to mid-November and it is very humid.

Unlike the coastal area, the mountains and the jungle have a warmer rainy season running from mid-November to late March, and the least warm season occurs between April and mid-November.

WEATHER TABLE BY CITY

City	Altitude	HighTemp	Low Temp
Cusco	3,395 (11,138 fasl)	17°C (63°F)	2°C (28°F)
Iquitos	104 (341 fasl)	36°C (97°F)	17°C (63°F)
Lima	133 (436 fasl)	25°C (77°F)	13°C (55°F)
Puerto Maldonado	183 (600 fasl)	34°C (93°F)	21°C (70°F)
Puno	3,827 (12,556 fasl)	19°C (6°F)	2°C (34°F)

HOW MUCH MONEY SHOULD I EXPECT TO SPEND ON MY TRIP?

This answer depends on your personal preferences and the level of comfort you desire. Bartering is generally accepted in Peru, with the exception of larger stores and restaurants. In larger cities prices in general may be higher, particularly in Lima, and may increase during festivities such as the National

Holidays (July), Easter (April) or Christmas due to higher demand for services such as bus and air transportation. Below is a price list of products and services that you may use as reference in order to prepare a travel budget.

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Reference product or service	US Dollars
Mineral water bottle 1.5 Lt (51 fl. oz.)	1.40
Medium soda pop 0.50	0.50
Burger	1.40
Apple	0.30
Shampoo bottle	2.00
Tooth paste	1.40
Lunch (frugal)	3.00
Lunch (basic)	12.00
Camera roll	4.00
Blank video tape	8.50
Pair of sneakers	30.00
Newspaper	0.50
Public internet booth or cybercafes (1 hour)	1.5
Train Cusco - Machu Picchu (return)	30.00(backpackers) 70.00 (Autovagon)
Bus (one way)	5.00
Flight to Cusco (return)	140.00
Lodging per night (very basic)	5 - 10
Lodging per night (2 star)	20 - 40
Lodging per night (3 star)	50 - 90
Lodging per night (4 and 5 star)	over 90

WHEN VISITING THE CITIES

- ✓ Take the logical precautions to avoid pickpockets and purse-snatchers.
 - ✓ Carry a copy of your identification documents. Keep the originals and the rest of valuable personal effects in the safety deposit box of your hotel.
 - ✓ Wear valuable items discretely; don't carry large sums of cash and watch your bags and luggage.
 - ✓ Refrain from exchanging currency on the street.
 - ✓ It is advisable to use taxi companies for transportation (they can be requested by phone) or cabs authorized by the municipal authorities (in Lima they carry a black and white or yellow and white bright decal sign).
- For road tourism:
- ✓ Always carry your driver's license, a copy of your passport and the rental agreement if you're driving a rental car. International driver's licenses are valid for one year, while driver's licenses from other countries are valid for 30 days.
 - ✓ If a traffic officer signals you to stop, you must stop. Traffic officers must be wearing uniform and carry identification (they are required to wear identification cards including their last name on their chest.) They are not allowed to enter the vehicle.
 - ✓ Bear in mind that traffic officers are not allowed retain any personal or vehicle documents. Under no circumstances should you offer or agree to pay money to traffic officers.

- ✓ In case of an accident or collision, call a traffic officer. If your car is a rental, call the representative of the insurance company provided by the rental agency. Do not leave the scene of the accident. Keep the windows closed and the doors locked.

WHERE TO GO

CUSCO "BIRTHPLACE OF THE WORLD"



Seductive, striking and natural, Cusco's history lives in its streets, squares, valleys and towns. Stunning destinations and examples of fine engineering by Inca stonemasons can be seen in Choquequirao, Sacsayhuamán, Kenko, Tambomachay, Ollantaytambo and Machu Picchu, the Inca jewel built with the wisdom of the ancient Peruvians in an ecological environment. Captivating landscapes such as the Sacred Valley, where the mountains are clothed by terraces. Picturesque villages where the past forms part of the present. Cusco really is the birthplace of the world.

LIMA "WORLD HERITAGE SITE"

In the north is the city of Caral, the oldest civilization of America, and to the south is the Archaeological Complex of Pachacamac. Lima's history predates the colonial presence in the country. The establishment of the viceroyalty transformed the city into the main political and administrative center of South America. During this period, significant churches, monasteries, mansions and balconies were built. The arrival of modernity didn't transform the historic center, which is recognized as a World Heritage Site.



Museums with great works of art, archaeological sites, beaches, the boardwalk, valleys, natural reserves, the nightlife, the thrill of adventure sports, and the exquisite cuisine gives Peru's capital an authentic personality and makes tourism in Lima a unique experience in the country.

LORETO "THE WORLD'S NATURE RESERVE"

The mighty Amazon, the longest river in the world that unites the people that live in the heart of the rainforest, crosses this region. Its forests grow on white sands and are home to an extremely diverse array of flora and fauna. In Loreto you will find exotic places to visit such as the Pacaya Samiria National Reserve with its pink dolphins and the Allpahuayo Mishana National Reserve, which has different types of soils and native birds.

Coexisting with native communities is part of daily life. Its cities are architecturally beautiful. Loreto is an experience that you live to the full.



MADRE DE DIOS "A PARADISE OF BIODIVERSITY"

Madre de Dios is home to never-ending forests, winding rivers and abundant wildlife. It is a wildlife reserve and refuge for endangered species, like the maned wolf and marsh deer. This region is also home to indigenous communities that promote ecotourism in regions with some of the richest biodiversity in the world, such as Lake Sandoval, Lake Valencia, Manu National Park, Tambopata National Reserve and Bahuaja-Sonene National Park, the only tropical, humid savannah ecosystem in Peru.

PUNO "FESTIVALS AND LEGENDS ON THE EDGE OF TITICACA"

Located on the Andean plateau of Peru, the Puno region is dominated by Lake Titicaca, sacred place of the Incas and home to natural and artificial islands. Among the many destinations, there are pre-Hispanic archaeological sites with circular constructions that still go by their original name of "chullpas". Puno's churches are characterized by their distinctive colonial architecture. Its inhabitants are proud of their Quechua and Aymara past, and their folkloric tradition that can be seen every year in the form of dances and rituals during the Candelaria festival. Puno is a legend, a multicolored festival, and home to natural and artificial islands. Puno is a legend, a multicolored festival, and home to natural and artificial islands.

