

2017 - PERU IS MAGIC (16 DAYS)

GENERAL ITINERARY

20-May	Day 0	Saturday	Fly to Lima (10am-8pm)
21-May	Day 1	Sunday	Lima (Historical Center and nearby)
22-May	Day 2	Monday	PeruHop trip Lima-Paracas Day1 (quadrocycles in Natural Reserve)
23-May	Day 3	Tuesday	PeruHop trip Paracas-Huacachina Day2 (Islas Ballestas, Huacachina Oasis, Dune Buggies, Sandboarding)
24-May	Day 4	Wednesday	PeruHop trip Day3 - bus to Nazca, Nazca & Palpa flight; back to Lima in the evening
25-May	Day 5	Thursday	Lima (Miraflores, San Isidro, Barranco)
26-May	Day 6	Friday	early morning fly to Arequipa and day in Arequipa
27-May	Day 7	Saturday	Colca Canyon Trek Day1 (3am) - stay overnight at the oasis at the bottom of the canyon
28-May	Day 8	Sunday	Colca Canyon Trek Day2
29-May	Day 9	Monday	Fly Arequipa to Cusco and day in Cusco
30-May	Day 10	Tuesday	Cusco and near Cusco (4 archaeological sites)
31-May	Day 11	Wednesday	Sacred Valley (Awanacancha, Pisac, Moray, Maras, Salineras, Ollantaytambo)
1-Jun	Day 12	Thursday	Ollantaytambo
2-Jun	Day 13	Friday	very early train to Agulas Calientes and MP (climb MP Montana)
3-Jun	Day 14	Saturday	MP (climb Huyana Picchu 10am), MP, and train back to Cusco or SV
4-Jun	Day 15	Sunday	Cusco 1/2 day (full day due to flight cancelation)
5-Jun	Day 16	Monday	early morning fly to Lima, 1/2 Day in Lima, fly home (9pm)

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1	20-May	Saturday	JFK to Lima flight via Quito (10am-8:20pm)
			- Green taxi to hotel
			- Night at Larco 656 Hotel in Lima
Day 2	21-May	Sunday	Day in Lima:
			- Taxi to Historic Center (Centro Historico)
			- Mercado Central (Central Market)
			- Plaza de Armas (Plaza Mayor) - Cathedral, Presidential Palace, City Hall, Palace of the Union, central fountain
			- Changing of the guard by Presidential Palace at noon daily

			- Iglesia y Convento de San Francisco - church and Catacombs beneath - 70000 dead; (access to Church by guided tour only)
			- Old Colonial Houses with balconies around Central Lima
			- Plaza San Martin, Plaza Italia, Chinatown, Plaza Bolivar
			- Walk on main pedestrian street: Jiron de la Union Street (connects Plaza de Armas and Plaza St Martin)
			- Walk streets of the Central (Old) Lima
			- Taste various street food
			- Plaza Bolognesi
			- Walk to Larco Museum through few Lima's districts
			- Museo Larco & its storerooms (in Pueblo Libre district) + pre-Columbian erotic pottery
			- Museo Larco Restaurant (Gustav Acurio) - Sousa, Lomo Saltado, Pisco Sour
			- Taxi to Parque de la Reserva - El Circuito Magico del Agua (Fountain Complex)
			- Taxi to hotel
			- Night at Larco 656 Hotel
Day 3	22-May	Monday	PeruHop (Day 1) - bus to Paracas: 7am hotel pickup (www.peruhops.com)
			- Cristo del Pacifico (and great Lima views)
			- Pachacamac panoramic view
			- Hacienda San Jose & Secret slave tunnels in Chincha
			- Quadrocycles to Paracas Natural Reserve
			- Dinner in Paracas
			- Night at Gran Palma Paracas Hotel
Day 4	23-May	Tuesday	PeruHop (Day 2) - Paracas & Huacachina:
			- Islas Ballestas Boat Trip (pass by "The Candelabra" ancient sand drawing)
			- Visit to Julio Tello Archaeological Museum in Paracas (in Natural Reserve) - elongated skulls, mummies...
			- PeruHop bus to Huacachina
			- Huacachina Oasis
			- Dune Buggies and Sandboarding in the Dunes
			- Walk dunes in the evening
			- Dinner in restaurant by the lake in the Oasis: Lomo Saltado and Pilsner Beer
			- Night in the Oasis at Dm Hoteles Mossone
Day 5	24-May	Wednesday	PeruHop (Day 3) - Nazca and return to Lima
			- Early morning: taxi to Ica bus station; take Soyuz Bus to Nazca (3hrs)
			- Nazca and Palpa Lines flight with www.alasperuanas.com
			- (no time to do any other things in Nazca (Cantayoc Aqueducts; M Reiche Museum; Watch Towers; Chauchilla Cemetery..))
			- Soyuz bus back to Huacachina (2.5hrs)

			- PeruHop bus back to Lima at 6:30pm (5hrs)
			- Night at Larco 656 Hotel in Lima
Day 6	25-May	Thursday	Day in Lima (Miraflores, San Isidro, Barranco, and nearby):
			- Park Kennedy
			- Guided tour of Huacapucliana (ancient Adobe temple)
			- Walk through San Isidro district
			- Visit Huaca Huallamarca (ancient Adobe temple with mummies)
			- Lunch at La Mar (Gaston Acurio's restaurant: www.lamarcebicheria.com) - Ceviche three sampler; Octopus Anticuchos
			- Miraflores El Malecon walk - 6 mile stretch of parks along cliffs over Pacific Ocean & and walk down to the water
			- Lighthouse, Park Amor and Statue "The Kiss", Paddington Bear of Peru
			- Larcomar Center (excellent food options)
			- Walk through Barranco district
			- Plaza Municipal & Bridge of Sighs
			- Coastal Cliffs in the evening
			- Drink and pastries at Tanta Restaurant at Larcomar
			- Night at Larco 656 Hotel in Lima
Day 7	26-May	Friday	Flight to Arequipa (White City) and Day in Arequipa:
			- Early morning taxi to airport, flight to Arequipa (7:45am-9:20)
			- Volcano and mountain peaks views
			- Plaza de Armas
			- San Camilo Market - buy fruits; lunch on 2nd floor; drink fresh fruit juice; buy coco leaves for altitude sickness
			- Walk streets of Arequipa including Calle Mercaderes
			- Tour of Santa Catalina Monastery
			- Walk through Yanahuara neighborhood
			- Dinner at Hatunpa restaurant (7 types of Andean potatoes and more)
			- Night at Casona Plaza Hotel
Day 8	27-May	Saturday	Colca Canyon 2-day trek (Day 1):
			- 3am Hotel pickup for Colca Canyon 2 Day Trek with Peruandes.com (www.findlocaltrips.com)
			- Stop at Chivay and Condor's Cross
			- 16km trek to the bottom of Canyon (2nd deepest canyon in the World)
			- Dinner and night at Sangalle Village (basic bungalos)
Day 9	28-May	Sunday	Colca Canyon 2-day trek (Day 2):
			- 5am uphill 3hrs hike

			- Breakfast at Cabanaconde town
			- Visit Chivay town
			- National Reserve and Pampa Canahuas (llamas, alpacas, vicunas) - (at 4830m above sea level)
			- Return to Arequipa (by 5pm)
			- Dinner at Gaston Acurio's "Chicha por Gaston" - Alpaca Steak
			- Night at Casona Plaza Hotel
Day 10	29-May	Monday	Flight to Cusco and Day in Cusco:
			- Arequipa to Cusco flight (8:50am-9:50 LATAM)
			- Plaza de Armas, Plaza Rejocio, Plaza San Francisco
			- San Pedro Market
			- Tour of Cathedral (impressive) (Christ eating cui - Cusco school painting)
			- Hatun Rumiyc Street - amazing stone wall; 12 angled stone; great at night
			- Buy Boleto Turistico (access to 16 various sites)
			- Guided tour of Coricancha (hire guide at the entrance), Santo Domingo, and museum
			- Eat Choclo (white corn)
			- Walk the streets of Cusco
			- Chicken and beef anticuchos - street vendors
			- Night at Illa Hotel
Day 11	30-May	Tuesday	Cusco and nearby:
			- Christo Blanco (statue of Christ above the City)
			Walk to 4 Archaeological Sites (total roundtrip visit to all 4 sites: 7hrs):
			- 1. Sacsayhuaman (House of Sun) (with on-site hired tour guide)
			- 2. Quenko
			- 3. Puca Pucara
			- 4. Tambomachay
			- Walk around Cusco's San Blas neighborhood (stone laid old town with lots of stairs)
			- Night at Illa Hotel
Day 12	31-May	Wednesday	Cusco --> Awanakancha --> Drive through Sacred Valley --> Ollantaytambo
			- Hired taxi driver for a day to drive through Sacred Valley and visit numerous sites; relocate from Cusco to Ollantaytambo
			- Awanakancha Llama, Alpaca, Vicuna... farm
			- Pisac ruins visit and 4hrs hike (excellent) + walk through Pisac Market
			- Drive through Sacred Valley
			- Maras town
			- Moray agricultural terraces

			- Maras Salt Mines
			- Ollantaytambo
			- Night at Tikawasi Hotel
Day 13	1-Jun	Thursday	Ollantaytambo:
			- Ollantaytambo Archaeological Site (with on-site hired tour guide)
			- Walk stone-paved street of Old Ollantaytambo Town
			- Pinkuylluna (Inca Grainaries) hike
			- Night at Tikwasi Hotel
Day 14	2-Jun	Friday	Machu Picchu Day 1:
			- Early PeruRail Expedition train from Ollantaytambo to Aguas Calientes (PeruRail 90min): 5:05am
			- Bus from Aguas Calientes to Machu Picchu (20min)
			- 9am Machu Picchu Mountain (Montana) Hike (3hrs round trip)
			- Machu Picchu ruins (on-site hired tour guide 2.5hrs)
			- Explore Machu Picchu site on my own
			- Return bus to Aguas Calientes
			- night at Aguas Calientes' Panorama B&B Hotel
Day 15	3-Jun	Saturday	Machu Picchu Day 2:
			- Bus from Aguas Calientes to Machu Picchu (20min)
			- Inca Bridge hike (25min round trip)
			- 10am Huayna (Wayna) Picchu hike ("stairs of death") (2hrs round trip)
			- Huchuy Picchu hike (small mountain - splits few minutes after entrance to Huayna Picchu; 30min round-trip)
			- Lunch at the cafeteria at the entrance to Machu Picchu
			- Sun Gate (IntiPuncu) hike (2hrs roundtrip)
			- Relax and enjoy Machu Picchu views
			- Return bus to Aguas Calientes
			- PeruRail "Expedition" train back to Ollantaytambo (PeruRail 90min): 18:20
			- Colectivo from Ollantaytambo to Cusco (90min)
			- Night at Illa Hotel
Day 16	4-Jun	Sunday	Cusco:
			- Morning in Cusco (shopping at San Pedro Market; artesan shops; souvenirs)
			- Lunch at Gaston Acurio's "Papachos" - burger restaurant
			- 3pm taxi to airport for 5pm flight to Lima - flight cancelled (rescheduled for next morning - 7:20am; & Lima - New York for Monday night)
			- Evening and dinner at Hotel in Cusco

Day 17	5-Jun	Monday	Lima:
			- Cusco to Lima flight at 7:20am
			- Leave luggage at airport storage and take "Lima Express" bus to Miraflores (\$16 round trip; 45min-1hr trip)
			- Coffee and churros at Manolo's café
			- Miraflores El Malecon - relax at the park areas with great cliff views over Pacific Ocean
			- Lunch at La Mar restaurant (ceviche and anticuchos)
			- 5pm bus back to airport (90min trip); pick up luggage from storage
			- 9:20pm: flight back home: Lima --> Quito --> New York (JFK); arrive 8am