

PERU DELUXE WITH HIRAN BINGHAM TRAIN

(Prices valid through December 24th 2011)

(ST-186)

LIMA – CUSCO – MACHU PICCHU – LIMA

(8 days / 7 nights)



This deluxe journey whilst offering conventional tours also includes visits to less known attractions in Lima, Cusco and the Sacred Valley of the Incas. Discover Lima's colonial heritage in the Museum of Colonial Art Pedro de Osma in Barranco the bohemian heart of Lima. Enjoy a private workshop on ancient Andean weaving techniques and designs with a local expert in Chincheros when groups begin to leave the market. Relax and revitalize with an indulgent Andean spa treatment in an incredible environment in the Sacred Valley of the Incas. The train ride aboard the luxury 'Hiram Bingham' assures a magical journey never to be forgotten. You will then stay overnight at one-of-a-kind hotel just 20 minutes away by bus from Machu Picchu. Pamper yourself at the end of the day in stylish 5* hotels, most of them historic boutique hotels offering exceptional service and amenities. We are sure you will rate this journey to Peru as the 'holiday of a lifetime'.

DAY 1 ... – LIMA

You will be met at the airport and escorted to your hotel. Enjoy a typical Peruvian 'pisco sour' and some appetizers in the quiet and intimate bar at the hotel. The typical English setting makes it the ideal place for relaxing after a long-haul flight.

DAY 2 LIMA (B,D)

Morning city tour of Lima. Your sightseeing tour explores the historic quarter and modern districts of the city: the main square with beautiful buildings. The Government Palace, the City Hall, the Palace of the Archbishop and the Cathedral are still the most important places in town. You continue on to the San Francisco Monastery and then the most popular place, Plaza San Martin.

We will be then driven to Barranco, Lima's traditional 'belle epoch' district. This is a pleasant suburb of Lima that has kept its character much better than most of the city and the bohemian heart of the city. Here we visit the Museum for Colonial Art de Osma located in a century-old mansion. The 'casona' in neoclassical style was formerly home of the de Osma Family and offers an insight of life in Peru during the Spanish Viceroyalty.

Paintings, sculptures, carvings and furniture of the 16th-19th centuries collected by Don Pedro de Osma in 30 years can be observed in this charming mansion. Fine pieces of silverware are on display in the former dining room. The buildings are surrounded by gardens with marble sculptures, palms and geraniums.

Dinner at 'Astrid y Gastón'. This restaurant has become the gem of the Peruvian culinary scene and has made it into the prestigious San Pellegrino World's 50 Best Restaurants in 2011. Gaston Acurio and Astrid Gutsche, both Cordon Bleu chefs, style up classic Peruvian dishes to modern standards with international tastes. The wine list is one of the best in town and the menu of spectacular desserts, the work of Astrid, is nearly as long as the main course menu. The bar has an amazing assortment of Piscos and Pisco cocktails, making it a good idea to arrive in advance for an exciting aperitif.

DAY 3**LIMA – CUSCO (B,D)**

An early morning flight brings us to the Inca capital of Cusco. Upon arrival, proceed to the hotel to have a welcome coca tea. This should help us to relieve altitude sickness. The remaining of the morning is free to relax, and slowly acclimatize.

This afternoon we walk through the major sites of interest in Cusco. We visit the famed Cathedral with its magnificently carved woodwork, ornate altar and many hundreds of canvases from the 17th-century 'Cusco Painting School'. We continue exploring the cultural wealth of Cusco at the Temple of the Sun where we witness the incredible masonry of the Incas, an engineering feat that remains an enigma. Afterward we walk along Hatunrumiyoc Street which is named for the 12-angled stone clearly visible in the remaining walls of what was Inca Roca's palace. We make a last stop in San Blas artisan quarter. Its steeped cobblestone alleys not only offer spectacular views of the city but are lined with workshops and galleries, a great way to soak in Cusco's artistic atmosphere. San Blas church houses an imposing pulpit considered one of New World's finest woodcarvings. Our tour ends with a visit to the Museum of Pre-Columbian Art hosted in a beautiful colonial casona, once residence of Count of Cabrera. This 'casona' holds the only museum in Peru dedicated to rebound the arts of ancient Peruvian cultures and showcases an astounding pre-Columbian collection dating from 1250 B.C to 1532 A.D. The art and artifacts were made by the Huari, Chimu, Nasca and the Inca cultures. Information labels for every artifact are available in English, Spanish and French allowing visitors to understand in which context of Ancient Peru were developed.

Dinner at 'Limo', offering a variety of 'classics' of the Peruvian gastronomy but also creations with a subtle hint of Asian cuisine. Owned by Coque Ossio, one of Peru's most acclaimed chefs, Limo has unbeatable location in Cusco's main square.

DAY 4**CUSCO – POROY – MACHU PICCHU (B,L,D)**

Early transfer to the Poroy train station to travel to Machu Picchu via the luxurious Hiram Bingham train. This train reflects the 1920s Pullman era whilst boasting elegance and sophistication. You'll enjoy brunch and cocktails in a relaxed atmosphere as the train passes through the Sacred Valley of the Incas. The train will arrive in Aguas Calientes at 12.30 pm when the guides will take you up to the majestic citadel of Machu Picchu by private bus. Get ready to experience one of the most outstanding archaeological wonders of the world on a 2-hour tour.

At the end of the day guests gather in Machu Picchu Sanctuary Lodge for late afternoon tea complete with a buffet of tea sandwiches, cookies, and sweets. Afterwards you will be transferred to your hotel in Aguas Calientes.

A la carte dinner will be served at the hotel.

DAY 5 MACHU PICCHU – POROY – CUSCO (B,D)

After breakfast we have the remainder of the morning free to roam around the majestic site of Machu Picchu, climb the Huayna Picchu or to explore the interesting town of Aguas Calientes.

Afternoon transfer to Aguas Calientes station to travel back to Poroy via the elegant Hiram Bingham train. Pre-dinner cocktails will be served on board. A sophisticated five-course meal follows. Upon arrival in Poroy, you will be transferred to your hotel in Cusco.

DAY 6 CUSCO – SACRED VALLEY (B,I)

This morning we drive to the charming community of Chinchero. Its main attraction is market (only Sundays) that traces its roots back to the Incas time when barter or 'trueque' existed. Today the market, noted for its textiles, takes place in the main square, at the foot of an Inca wall and is real hub of activity, vibrant with color and movement which fascinates tourists with its range of handicrafts. We then join a local weaving family in their courtyard for an overview of the Andean weaving process. We watch as wool is carded, spun, and dyed and learn about the different techniques used to create belts, ponchos and shawls.

Lunch at Wayra. This countryside restaurant provides high-quality Cusqueno-style barbecue for lunch. Try the local 'choclo' or 'Andean corn', Cusqueno bread, different sorts of potatoes grown in the Sacred Valley and the popular maize beer or 'chicha'. Guests can dine either in the tastefully appointed dining room or in the terrace with typical Cusqueno brick ovens and the surrounding snow-capped Andes. Lunch is also accompanied by Peruvian Paso horse from the hotel's own stables.

After lunch we drive past ancient farming terraces that are still in use today to grow barley, wheat, and corn to reach the town of Ollantaytambo where the Temple of the Sun (formed of six gigantic monoliths, whose total weight exceeds 50 tons) and the Terrace of the Ten Niches stand out.

Tonight you will enjoy a relaxing and soothing time in the Andean Spa at the hotel with a massage session.

DAY 7 SACRED VALLEY – CUSCO (B)

Our guide will take us to visit the age-old terraced salt mines in Maras. The dominant color is an intense white that burns like snow on a sunny day and are an impressive sight for any visitor. Salt was extracted from these mines from Inca times and the same method has been used ever since - all work is done by hand. After stopping to explore, we continue to Moray one of the many little jewels to be found in the Cusco region. It is a complex of four circular terraces which, hidden among the hills, it emerges suddenly into view when the visitor is almost on top of it. The impression created by these terraces like Greek amphitheatres against a backdrop of snow covered mountains is unforgettable. Even more surprising is the fact that Moray was a sort of open-air agricultural lab, used for adapting plants to new environmental conditions.

Afterwards drive back to Cusco.

This evening we will have a Pisco tasting in a very special place - 'El Pisquerito'. This bar offers innovative cocktails exclusively mixed with Peru's fine Pisco brands and inspired in aspects of the local identity and regional fruits. This was the idea that has driven Hans Hilburg, a Peruvian with more than 30 years dedicated to bartending, to open his own bar.

Hillburg created the cocktail repertoire for most of the restaurants of the most renowned Peruvian chef, Gaston Acurio. Learn about the history of Pisco, the existing sorts and how to mix a genuine Pisco sour. Once introduced in the Pisco culture, mix your own cocktail while and enjoy local appetizers.

DAY 8 CUSCO – LIMA (B,L)

Morning flight to Lima and transfer to the restaurant for lunch. Created with a contemporary design in the heart of Miraflores, Maido is considered one of the best restaurants of the Peruvian-Japanese fusion cuisine. Dishes such as Guratan Maki, Nikkei Ravioli and Tacuchaufa are prepared with the finest ingredients and presented carefully delighting the even the most discerning gourmands. In Japan there are many ways to say ‘welcome’, but none are as profound as ‘maido’ that transmits the determination that the customer feels at home. This is the philosophy of the restaurant that is led by Mitsuharu Tsumura. After having gained experience in his ancestors’ country ‘Misha’ returned to Lima and is today one of the youngest and most talented chefs on the Peruvian culinary scene. Get ready to discover unique textures and tastes in a warm atmosphere.

At proper time you will be transferred to the airport for your international flight.

Price per person in USD sharing TWIN	Private Services					Single Suppl.
	2	4	6	8	10	
Deluxe	2,921	2,494	2,421	2,324	2,303	805
Deluxe Superior	3,593	3,166	3,094	2,997	2,974	1,458

* min. 2 persons

Domestic flights (net price per person in USD)	
Lima – Cusco – Lima	390 *

*Air fares subject to change according availability

City	Deluxe	Deluxe Superior
Lima	Country Club (master room) www.hotelcountry.com	Miraflores Park (ocean view executive) www.mira-park.com
Cusco	Aranwa Cusco www.aranwahotels.com	Monasterio (deluxe room) www.monasterio.orient-express.com
Sacred Valley	Aranwa www.aranwahotels.com	Libertador Tambo del Inka (deluxe) www.libertador.com.pe
Aguas Calientes	Sumaq www.sumaqhotelperu.com	Machu Picchu Pueblo (superior deluxe) www.pueblohotel.info

SERVICES INCLUDED

- Transfers from/to hotel
- Accommodation based on TWIN in the selected hotel category
- Excursions as noted in the itinerary
- Private services with local German, French, Italian or English speaking guide

- Train ticket Ollanta - Machu Picchu - Poroy in Hiram Bingham Class (Deluxe Class)
- Hiram Bingham Train and tour in Machu Picchu on SIC basis (seat in coach – shared with other travelers, with local English/Spanish speaking guide)
- Meals as noted (B: breakfast, L: lunch, D: dinner)
- Entrance fees to the sites mentioned in the itinerary

NOT INCLUDED

- International air fares
- Domestic flights (see cost above including airport tax)
- Entrance fees and bus Aguas Calientes-Machu Picchu-Aguas Calientes for second day visit to Machu Picchu
- Tips