



# PERU & THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS, HONEYMOON & SPECIAL ADVENTURE



## **Includes**

### **Transfers**

Arrival and departure transfers to airports.

### **Escorted**

Services of local representatives in Lima, Cuzco and Guayaquil. Tours by English speaking guides and transfers with driver.

### **Transport**

Private air-conditioned car for transfers, round trip on the Vistadome train to Aguas Calientes, bus to Machu Picchu, boat and canoes in the jungle (shared services). Domestic flights Lima-Cuzco, Cuzco-Puerto Maldonado, Puerto Maldonado-Lima, and Guayaquil-Galapagos-Guayaquil. (Please note the flight Lima-Guayaquil is not included and can be booked as part of your international ticket – please ask us if you need assistance with this).

### **Activities**

Extensive walking at sites, city tours in Cuzco and Guayaquil, tour of Machu Picchu, tour of Sacred Valley, jungle excursions, wildlife spotting in the Galapagos Islands.

### **Accommodation**

7 nights boutique colonial and superior hotels, 3 nights jungle lodge, 4 nights cruise.

## **Meals**

As per itinerary. B - Breakfast, L - Lunch, D - Dinner.

## **Entrance Fees**

Included for all sites listed as a part of the itinerary, except Galapagos National Park. This should be paid locally and is US\$100 per person.

\*Please note that these itineraries can be tailored to suit your dates, duration and budget. Ask for more details on quotation.

## **Itinerary**

### **DAY 1 (Sunday) - LIMA**

Arrival transfer to your hotel Antigua Miraflores, in the heart of Lima.

#### **Lima**

Situated on either side of the Rio Rimac, shrouded in the garua (coastal fog) for eight months of the year, Lima is the capital of Peru and home to an estimated third of the country's 27 million inhabitants. Crouching at the foot of Cerro San Cristobal, Lima replaced the Inca city of Cuzco as the capital of Peru in 1535. Initially called La Ciudad de Los Reyes (City of Kings) by the first colonialists, Lima was the principal Spanish capital of South America, an essential trading post on the Pacific and gateway to the continent responsible for establishing their empire. Despite a devastating earthquake in 1746, Lima has maintained the character of this heritage whilst growing into a bustling, modern metropolis with an abundance of attractions. From the excellent Museo de la Nacion, crammed full of Inca, pre-Colombian and colonial historical artefacts, to the cosmopolitan shopping centres at San Isidro and Miraflores, Lima is amongst the most atmospheric cities in South America. UNESCO World Heritage Sites, such as the Plaza de Armas on the south bank of the Rimac, are interspersed with market stalls selling authentic Peruvian handicrafts.

#### **Hotel Antigua Miraflores**

The Antigua Miraflores is a hidden treasure in the heart of Lima. The place is filled with antique furnishings, wooden fixtures fashioned from Oregon pine and modern Peruvian artwork, whilst the tiny central courtyard is a haven of tranquility.

### **DAY 2 (Monday) - CUZCO**

This morning you will take a flight to the beautiful city of Cuzco. Transfer to your room in Los Marqueses, a cosy restored colonial mansion. In the afternoon your guide will take you to discover the secrets of Cuzco. (B)

#### **Cuzco**

Once the epicentre of the Inca Empire, buried in the heart of the mysterious Sacred Valley, Cuzco offers a magical combination of ancient religious sanctity and colonial splendour. Unquestionably the archaeological capital of the Americas and the oldest inhabited city on the continent, Qosqo (Cuzco in Quechua) has been declared the historic capital of Peru and is so shrouded in mystery that it is impossible to separate the facts of its history from fiction. The Inca legends of Cuzco are proudly remembered by the Quechua-speaking descendants of the Incas who still live amidst the original stonework that was laid down in 1100 AD. The more recent Spanish colonial influence manifests itself in ornate cathedrals such as La Compania and mansions piled with priceless treasures. An intoxicating blend of indigenous ritualism and colonial bombast, Cuzco is now home to a thriving tourist industry.

## **Los Marqueses**

Los Marqueses Hotel is a beautiful colonial house located just one block from the Plaza de Armas (the main square in Cuzco). Originally built in the 16th century, it was extensively restored and refurbished in 2004 and is now a charming boutique hotel. Each of the rooms are individually decorated in the local style and have been attractively furnished in cedar and aliso wood.

## **DAY 3 (Tuesday) - SACRED VALLEY**

After breakfast you will follow the Rio Urubamba as it snakes through the lush landscape of the Sacred Valley, passing charming Andean villages and some of the most breathtaking views in Peru. Our visit through the pictureque Sacred Valley will include a stop at the vibrant Pisac Indian Market which is a sight to behold as it attracts thousands of visitors and people from remote communities dressed in colourful, traditional attire. Overnight at Hotel Pakaritampu. (BL)

## **Sacred Valley**

The Rio Urubamba snakes through the lush landscape of the Sacred Valley, passing ancient Incan stonework, charming Andean villages, quaint colonial churches and some of the most breathtaking views in Peru. The strategic fortress citadel of Pisac lies 30km to the north-east and provides a convenient gateway to the valley. Every Thursday and Sunday Pisac bursts into life with a teeming market in the Plaza Constitucion. Stalls overflow with everything from bricks of adobe to reams of vivid llama wool, manned by native Andeans clothed in the traditional dress of the Peruvian highlands. Behind the market, 600m above colonial Pisac, deep gorges flank the Incan ruins overlooking the town. Ollantaytambo also offers beautiful Inca ruins, in a spectacular natural setting.

## **Hotel Pakaritampu**

The name "Pakaritampu" derives from the Quechua words "pakari" which means "dawn" and "tampu" which means "home". At Hotel Pakaritampu we offer comfortable lodging with the hospitality we are known for, so that you will have a pleasant stay after exploring the different options that the area offers. Hotel Pakaritampu is built on a 10,000 m<sup>2</sup> lot and has ample green areas.

## **DAY 4 (Wednesday) - MACHU PICCHU**

Early in the morning board the Vistadome train to Machu Picchu for a spectacular journey through a dramatic and changing landscape. On arrival in Aguas Calientes you will be taken by bus to Machu Picchu where you will enjoy a private guided tour of the famous citadel. After lunch return to Cuzco by train. (BL)

## **Machu Picchu**

Perched high on a ridge between enormous peaks, framed by the towering Huayna Picchu and the raging Vilcanota River, the lost city of Machu Picchu stands as one of the most revered archaeological sites in the world. Concealed beneath dense Andean foliage, Machu Picchu was discovered on 24th July 1911 by the American Hiram Bingham whilst searching for the ancient ruins of Vilcabamba. Thought to have been built in around 1440 AD at the height of the Incan epoch, the site was inhabited until the Spanish conquest of 1532. Archaeological evidence indicates that rather than being a permanently inhabited city, Machu Picchu was in fact a country retreat for the Inca nobility. Irrespective of why Machu Picchu exists, it is an unforgettable sight.

## **Hiram Bingham Express – Day 4 Upgrade**

Upgrade your day for an amazing experience on the Peruvian Orient Express, the Hiram Bingham Express to Machu Picchu. With distinctive blue and gold carriages, the train reflects the luxury of the 1920s Pullman era. The Hiram Bingham departs Cuzco at 9am which gives a more leisurely start to the day than the traditional 6am departures of other services. Brunch is served on board the train whilst travellers enjoy the spectacular scenery unfolding before them from the large windows. The arrival at Machu Picchu at 12.30 pm gives passengers the advantage of entering the sanctuary at an hour when the majority of the visitors are already beginning to leave for their journey back to Cuzco. This not only gives the opportunity to

experience the ancient citadel at Machu Picchu in relative solitude, but also gives a longer stay there, as passengers only return to the train as the sun goes down. Once back on board for a 6.30pm departure, pre-dinner cocktails are served in the bar accompanied by live entertainment before passengers enjoy a four course à la carte dinner in the dining cars. The train pulls into Poroy station in Cusco at 10pm.

### **Hike the Inca Trail?**

If you would like to hike the Inca Trail we can arrange this for you. It takes four days and offers a spectacular approach to Machu Picchu. Please ask us for further details.

### **DAY 5 (Thursday) - CUZCO – PUERTO MALDONADO**

Fly to Puerto Maldonado. On arrival you will travel deep into the Amazon jungle by motorised canoe and spend three nights at a remote jungle lodge. (B,L,D)

### **Amazon Jungle**

Covering 7 million km<sup>2</sup> (an area as large as the United States) and producing 15% of the world's oxygen, the Amazon Basin is the largest and most dense tropical forest in the world. Andean winds warmed by the humid blanket of foliage have produced an environment of critical global importance, home to some 2,500 fish species, 1,780 bird species and 500 plants species, many of which are rare and unique to this region including the redbilled toucan, black spider monkey and Amazonian pygmy owl. The south-eastern jungle around Puerto Maldonado receives less rainfall than tropical forest and is dominated by the floodplains of various Amazonian rivers. Home to black caiman, giant otter, jaguar, puma and tapir, Puerto Maldonado is an isolated outpost on the fringe of the Amazon Basin, famed for the production of jungle crops such as Brazil nuts and coffee, and the mining of gold. The pioneer spirit amongst the locals recalls a boomtown era and adds to the authenticity of this isolated port overlooking a network of intersecting rivers.

### **Reserva Amazonica Inkaterra**

To arrive at the Reserva Amazonica Inkaterra is to enter into another world. Situated right on the river bank in the heart of a 100km<sup>2</sup> private ecological reserve, the lodge boasts private cabanas built with local materials in the indigenous style and unrivalled views of the rainforest.

### **DAY 6 TO DAY 7 (Friday & Saturday) - AMAZON**

Two full days to explore the Amazon by foot and canoe, accompanied by a specialist wildlife guide. In the evening you can relax in your hammock while the magic sounds of the jungle continue around you. (B,L,D)

### **DAY 8 (Sunday) - AMAZON – LIMA**

Transfer to Puerto Maldonado in time for your flight back to Lima. On arrival you will be met and transferred to your hotel (Hotel Antigua Miraflores as before).

This evening for your final night in Peru you will be taken for a romantic dinner at the Rosa Nautica Restaurant; transport to and from the restaurant is provided. (B)

### **Rosa Nautica Restaurant**

Located in Pier 4 of the Lima Beach Circuit, La Rosa Náutica offers a public eager for new experiences the most complete selection of Peruvian and International cuisine, as well as the most sophisticated bar to be found on the Pacific shores. All of this combined with an incomparable view and the peace which can only be found where infinity begins.

If you are looking to please your palate and soothe your soul, then allow yourself to be drawn to La Rosa Náutica; a corner of Latin America created especially for connoisseurs in search of true pleasure.

### **DAY 9 (Monday) - LIMA – GUAYAQUIL**

Transfer to the airport to fly to Guayaquil\* where you can enjoy a 4 hour guided city tour in the afternoon. (B)

*(\*Please note this flight is not included and can be booked as part of your international flight ticket – please ask us if you require assistance in booking this flight)*

### **Hampton Inn**

The Hampton Inn offers comfortable accommodation in a modern block in the heart of Guayaquil. Situated a short distance from the Malecon 2000 complex with bars and restaurants, gardens, cinemas and shops, the Hampton Inn is conveniently located for everything Guayaquil has to offer.

During your stay here you will be booked on the “Romance Package” which includes a night in a Junior Suite, flowers in your room, champagne in your room, American breakfast in your room or buffet breakfast in the cafeteria and a 30 minute massage in the Spa.

### **DAY 10 (Tuesday) - GUAYAQUIL - GALAPAGOS**

In the morning transfer to the airport for your flight to the Galapagos Islands to meet your cruise boat. Settle into your private cabin and enjoy your evening meal whilst taking in the spectacular ocean views.

### **DAY 11 TO DAY 13 (Wednesday, Thursday & Friday) - GALAPAGOS CRUISE**

Three days spent cruising these incredible islands and admiring their unique wildlife. Whilst exploring you may be lucky enough to get up close to some of the islands inhabitants including giant tortoise, sea lion, marine iguanas and dolphins. (B,L,D)

### **The Galapagos Islands**

Often described as a wildlife paradise, the Galapagos Islands are nature’s showcase, a chain of stunning volcanic islands jutting out of the Pacific Ocean 1000km off the coast of Ecuador. One of the most remarkable things about the islands is that since they have been isolated from predators for so long, the animals have lost their fear of man and you can swim with sea lions and dolphins, go diving with hammerhead sharks, encounter a giant tortoise, walk through colonies of frigate birds or step over seals basking on the beaches. The islands were visited by Charles Darwin in 1835 and were instrumental in him forming his theory of evolution. On the cruise, presentations will be given by naturalists about the remarkable ecosystem of the islands, and there will be plenty of opportunities to disembark and walk on the islands, observing bird colonies of blue footed boobies, frigate birds, swallow tailed gulls, sea lions and marine iguanas. The islands were discovered by accident in 1535 when the Bishop of Panama drifted off course while bound for Peru. He reported the presence of giant tortoises – galapago – where the islands got their name from. The islands were often used as a stop off point by sailors in search of firewood and fresh water. Ecuador announced sovereignty over the Galapagos Islands in 1832, and the entire archipelago became a national park in 1959.

On a typical day cruising the Galapagos you might disembark at a white coral beach where you can take a short walk and watch the sea lions, marine iguanas, mockingbirds and finches, or just enjoy the beach. There is good snorkelling in many areas as well. After lunch on board or at a local restaurant depending on your location, you might go for a walk on lava terrain to visit unique sea bird colonies - masked boobies, frigate birds, storm petrels and albatross are all found. In addition excursions by dinghy can sometimes be arranged. In the evening there is often a naturalist’s briefing before dinner.

### **A Typical Day**

#### **Your Cruise**

This itinerary has been designed around the First Class “Galapagos Voyager” yacht and priced accordingly. If you need to start your honeymoon on a different day of the week or prefer a Luxury yacht, please ask us about this and we will be happy to check current availability and send you details.

## **Please Note**

- Entrance fees for the Galapagos National Park are not included in the price of the tour. Please allow US\$100 which should be paid locally.
- Every visitor to the Galapagos must also buy a Transit Card for their stay on the islands, which will cost US\$10 per visitor.
- We can arrange cruises in the Galapagos for 4, 5 or 8 days. This itinerary includes a 5 day cruise starting on a Tuesday however if you wish to change this please mention it to your travel consultant at the time of booking so that we can check availability.

## **DAY 14 (Saturday) - GALAPAGOS - QUITO**

Return flight to Quito. On arrival transfer to Patio Andaluz, your sumptuous accommodation for your last night. (B)

### **Quito**

Nestled in a long, narrow valley between the lush base of the Volcano Pichincha to the west and the precipitous canyon of the river Machángara to the east, Quito enjoys an unmatched natural setting. During the pre-Columbian era several tribes inhabited present-day Quito. During the early 16th century, while the Incas controlled Ecuador, Quito served as the capital of the northern half of their empire. In 1533, the Inca General Rumiñahui destroyed Quito so that it would not fall into the hands of the advancing conquistadors. Just a year later the Spanish began rebuilding what was left of Quito. The city sits at an altitude of 2,850m but because of its proximity to the equator it experiences wonderful spring like conditions most the year, with blue skies and crisp cool evenings. Today the UNESCO listed colonial centre is splendidly preserved whilst the 'new town' is the place to go for cafes and bars.

### **Hotel Patio Andaluz**

Situated in the heart of the Old Historic Centre of Quito, surrounded by churches, museums, and national monuments, the hotel Patio Andaluz offers stylish accommodation in an old colonial setting. Rooms are comfortably furnished and there is an exclusive restaurant, El Rincon De Cantuna, specialising in traditional local and Spanish cuisine.

## **DAY 15 (Sunday) - QUITO**

Transfer to Quito International Airport for your departure flight. (B)

## **Itinerary Notes**

**Please note:** Our published price is based on the fare for a 5d/4n cruise in the First Class yacht the "Galapagos Voyager" and includes flights to and from the Galapagos.  
<http://www.galapagosvoyageryacht.com/>

Please note that the Galapagos cruise must therefore start on a Tuesday, which means day 1 of the honeymoon falls on a Sunday. If you need to change your start day please note that exact prices depend on the boat used and the time of year and are available on request.

**This itinerary starts from £3899 per person.**

Prices will depend on date of travel, inclusions and exclusions. Please contact us for details.

