

Travel | Peru 09

3 Star - Double | \$2,950 Per Person Single | \$3,350 Per Person

HOTELS:

Lima, San Agustin-Colonial Hotel; Sacred Valley, San Agustin Urubamba; Cusco, San Agustin International; Mapi, Machu Picchu Inn. (Room upgrades are available upon request.) Upgrade to the Hiram Bingham train available for \$450 per person. (This train operates every day except Sunday.)

DEPOSIT/PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Double:

\$500 deposit by September 15, 2008; \$600 – October 15, 2008; \$600 – November 15, 2008; \$600 – February 15, 2009; \$650 – March 15, 2009.

Single:

\$500 deposit by September 15, 2008; \$700 – October 15, 2008; \$700 – November 15, 2008; \$700 – February 15, 2009; \$750 – March 15, 2009.

PRICE INCLUDES:

Round-Trip bus transportation from San Marcos to Austin airport
Round-Trip airfare from Austin to Lima in economy class
Round-trip airfare from Lima to Cusco in economy class.
Airport/hotel transfers with baggage.
Three nights hotel accommodations in Lima.
City tour of Lima.
Two nights hotel accommodations in the Sacred Valley of the Incas.
Private excursion to the Indian artisan market or Inca Ruins in Pisac.
Choice of four optional excursions in the Sacred Valley of the Incas. (\$85-\$90)
Private excursion to the fortress of Ollantaytambo.
Two nights hotel accommodations in Cusco.
City tour of Cusco.
Excursion to Machu Picchu (via Vistadome train) with guided tour.
One night hotel accommodations in Machu Picchu.
Excursion to the Larco Museum and Folkloric Dinner Show in Lima.
Meals as indicated on the itinerary.
Hotel service fees and taxes.
Park, museum, and all other entrance fees.
Licensed, English-speaking tour guides.
Tips for drivers and tour guides

PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

International airport departure tax of \$30.25.
Domestic airport tax of \$6.05 each way.
Meals not indicated on the itinerary.
Tipping for hotel staff.

THIS TOUR WILL BE LIMITED TO THE FIRST TWENTY-TWO TRAVELERS.

DON'T MISS OUT!

SEND IN YOUR DEPOSIT AND RESERVATION FORM TODAY!



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THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY
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TRAVEL TO PERU FOR A
South American Odyssey

May 16-24 | 2009



OPTION 3: Chincheros and the Maras Moray Salt Mines

The town of Chincheros is located 22 miles from Cusco. This is an ancient Inca agricultural center. The salt mines are located five miles from Moray, where layers of beige and white salt pans are still used to crystallize salt from water. This is an amazing Inca experimental farm, where a natural depression has been transformed in enormous terraces superimposed in concentric form with a shape of a great coliseum, achieving up to 150 meters in difference of height levels.

(\$85 per person; Minimum 2 passengers)

OPTION 4: Whitewater Rafting on the Urubamba River

Early morning you will be transferred to the Sacred Valley of the Incas. Whitewater rafting is so popular and the rapids at the Urubamba River reach Class II, III level of difficulty. Our local instructor will show you the basic techniques to raft and you will choose the area that you want to explore depending on the level of difficulty. You will sail for about two hours and a half and the areas are Ollantaytambo, Huambutio, and Chiquichahuana-Quiquijana.

(\$90 per person; Minimum 2 passengers)

Trip Itinerary...



Saturday, May 16th

Bus from San Marcos for Austin Airport Continental Airlines to Lima, Peru

After passing through immigration and customs, proceed to the reception area, where our inbound services representative will be holding a sign with your name on it. You will be greeted and then transferred to your hotel.

Sunday, May 17th



Afternoon city tour of Lima. You will visit downtown Lima and see several examples of the Spanish architecture of the colonial period including the Plaza de Armas, the Presidential Palace, the Cathedral, and the Church of San Francisco and Catacombs. After that, you will see Huaca Huallamarca, a restored adobe pyramid dating from the pre-Inca period located in San Isidro. You will tour the upscale residential and commercial district of Miraflores and see the Parque del Amor, a seaside park with a huge statue of a kissing couple, before returning to your hotel. (B)

Monday, May 18th



Early morning transfer to the airport for the flight to Cusco. Upon arrival, continue by private transportation to the Sacred Valley of the Incas. Transfer to your hotel. After lunch, you will have a private excursion to the Indian artisan market or Inca Ruins in Pisac. (B, L)

Tuesday, May 19th



Sacred Valley of the Incas: Choose one of the following half-day horseback riding tour; half-day Salineras salt pans walk; Chincheros and the Maras Moray Salt Mines; or whitewater rafting on the Urubamba River (Optional tours are \$85-\$90 per person). After lunch (for the half-day excursions), you will have a private excursion to the Ollantaytambo Fortress. (B, L)

Wednesday, May 20th



Sacred Valley-Machu Picchu: Early morning transfer to the train station for the ride to Machu Picchu, 'the Lost City of the Incas' (7,900 ft.). This mountaintop citadel, which served as both a center of worship and an astronomic observatory, is located in the middle of the cloud forest overlooking the Urubamba River.

Continued...



There are both agricultural and urban areas constructed with the precision stonework that the Incas are known for. The agricultural area consists of terraces and food store-houses, and the urban area contains temples, squares, and royal tombs. Guided tour followed by lunch at the Sanctuary Lodge. In the afternoon, you will be transferred to your hotel. (B, L)



Thursday, May 21st

Machu Picchu-Cusco: Free day to explore Machu Picchu on your own. You may want to hike the Huayna Picchu or visit the hot springs of Aguas Calientes. Mid-afternoon, you will depart from Machu Picchu by train to Poroy Station and then be taken to Cusco by private

transportation. (B)



Friday, May 22nd

Cusco: In morning, you will have a city tour that includes a walk through the Cathedral, the Koricancha ('site of gold'), typical streets, and the four ruins that surround the city: the Sacsayhuaman Fortress, Kenko, Puca Pucara, and Tampumachay. (B)



Saturday, May 23rd

Cusco-Lima: Early morning transfer to the airport for your flight back to Lima. Upon arrival, you will be transferred to your hotel. After noon, you will visit the Larco Museum. In the evening, you will enjoy a Folkloric Dinner Show at Junius Restaurant. (B, D)

Sunday, May 24th

Transfer to the airport for your return flight to Austin. (B)

(B) = Breakfast, (L) = Lunch, (D) = Dinner

A Note about Your Free Day in Machu Picchu

On your free day, you will be on your own. You will need to purchase a one-day pass to enter Machu Picchu for \$44 (per person). If you are staying in Aguas Calientes, you will also need to purchase a round-trip bus fare for \$12 (per person). As an alternative to visiting Machu Picchu again, you can visit the hot springs nearby, or partake in another activity. At the end of the day (mid-late afternoon), you will walk to the train station for the return ride to Cusco. Our local representative will be waiting for you at the train station in Poroy (the Cusco station), to take you to your hotel.

A Note about the Indian Artisan Market in Pisac

The Indian artisan Market in Pisac is only open on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays year around and daily from April to September. On the other days of the week, you will be taken to the Inca ruins above the village.

Highlights

This tour includes accommodations for 8 nights (3 nights in Lima, 2 nights in Sacred Valley, 2 nights in Cusco, and 1 night in Machu Picchu); 12 meals (8 breakfasts, 3 lunches, and 1 dinner); international airfare (from Austin) and domestic airfare; and full-day private Sacred Valley of the Incas excursion.

Elevations:

The Sacred Valley of the Inca is 7,600 feet (above sea level), Machu Picchu is 7,900 feet, and Cusco is 10,660 feet.

Passport /Visa:

U.S. citizens require a passport valid for at least six months from date of entry and return ticket for stays of up to 90 days.



Optional Excursions in the Sacred Valley

Tuesday, May 19th

OPTION 1: Half-Day Horseback Riding Tour

The tour starts with a briefing about the tour, horses, safety, and riding methods. We have horses for all abilities. Please indicate your riding level before booking so we can have the right horse for you. This 2-3 hour ride will give you the unique experience of riding the smoothest riding horse in the world in one of the most fascinating regions of the Andes, the Sacred Valley of the Incas <<http://hotelsolylunacom/english/sv.htm>> <<http://hotelsolyluna.com/english/sv.htm>> There are many places to visit: the Salt Pans of Salinas, the old village of Pichingote, the lively market town of Urubamba, or the wonderful farmland and the Quechua communities of the valley, while becoming familiar with our beautiful Peruvian Paso horses <<http://hotelsolyluna.com/english/pph.htm>> The Peruvian Paso horse <<http://hotelsolyluna.com/english/pph.htm>> is a genuine symbol of more than 400 years of Peruvian tradition. (\$85 per person; Minimum 2 passengers)

OPTION 2: Half-Day Salineras Salt Pans Walk

Route: Salineras - Pichingoto - Urubamba river | Walking distance: 2 km | Degree: S/M
We depart by van for Salineras, a ride which takes about 45 minutes. Upon arrival we will spend some time so our guide can explain to us how the salt-draining process works. We might even have the chance to try making salt ourselves. Our descent into the Sacred Valley<<http://hotelsolylunacom/english/sv.htm>> <<http://hotelsolyluna.com/english/sv.html>>starts off on a narrow path and we need to walk cautiously. We may spot the Cara cara, a typical Andean mountainbird and a member of the falcon family. The path, which runs alongside a gorge, takes us down to the Urubamba River. On our side is a brook that also runs through the salt pans. Because of its high salt content, it turns the earth on its banks white. Other birds we might spot while we approach the river are the Andean gull and the hummingbird. After crossing the hanging bridge the van picks us up to take us back to the hotel. Our journey has all been downhill. (\$85 per person; Minimum 2 passengers)