



PERU

LAND OF THE INCAS

NOV 3 – 18, 2025 | 16 DAYS | 34 MEALS

SMALL GROUP

JOURNEY LEADER: MICHELE BUYS

Craig
travel

Man knitting, Taquile Island

Peru is a country of striking contrasts, stretching from the Pacific Ocean across the Andes to the Amazon Basin. Once the heart of the Inca Empire, it preserves impressive feats of engineering, like the iconic farming terraces of Colca Canyon, the mysterious Nazca Lines and the Inca Trail, which spans over 40,000 kilometres across six South American countries.

This journey uncovers key Inca sites, from the Sacred Valley to the lost city of Machu Picchu. We will also visit Peru's coast, various UNESCO-listed landmarks, modern and colonial cities, and captivating areas like Lake Titicaca - the world's highest navigable lake - offering a well-rounded view of Peru's history, landscapes, and contemporary culture.

Inclusive Features

- Return economy group airfare from Canada, plus domestic flights in Peru
- Rail travel from Machu Picchu to Cuzco
- Accommodations in first class and best available hotels as indicated or similar
- 34 meals as indicated (B - 14 breakfasts, L - 9 lunches, D - 11 dinners)
- Services of your Canadian journey leader plus professional guides in Peru
- All gratuities, surcharges, taxes and fees for included services
- Airport transfers in Canada or equivalent value with purchase of group airfare

Highlights

- Lima, the bustling capital of Peru
- Sacred Valley and Machu Picchu, home of the Incas
- Cuzco, the oldest city in South America
- Puno and Lake Titicaca
- The condors in spectacular Colca Canyon
- White City of Arequipa
- Cruise to the Ballestas Islands
- Excursion over the Nasca Plains (weather permitting)

Journey Leader

Michele Buys recently retired from nursing after 37 years of service. With parents who immigrated to Canada from Holland, she developed a passion for travel at a young age. Her adventures began with a backpacking trip through Europe, followed by explorations in Morocco and Turkey. Later, she embarked on a solo trip around the world, working briefly as a nurse in Australia and immersing herself in the local culture. One of her most memorable experiences was climbing the Annapurna Mountain range in Nepal, reaching 5,400 metres. Michele continues to explore Europe whenever possible, with her latest destination being Croatia. Her outgoing personality and sense of humour will make your trip a truly memorable one.



NOV 3, Monday

CANADA / LIMA, PERU

Our journey begins as we gather in Toronto for our flights to Lima, the capital of Peru. Upon arrival, we transfer to our hotel in the upscale district of Miraflores.

Inside Hotel (3 nights)

NOV 4, Tuesday

LIMA, PERU

The morning is free for some relaxation and rest. This afternoon enjoy a city tour of Lima, which will introduce us to the city's main attractions: the Government Palace, the Archbishop and the Cathedral, the San Francisco Convent and the marvellous Casa Solar de Aliaga, America's best-preserved colonial mansion. Founded by the conquistador Francisco Pizarro in 1535, Lima is known for its rich history and vibrant culinary scene, boasting over 3,000 restaurants. This evening, we will come together to savour our welcome dinner. **BD**

NOV 5, Wednesday

LIMA

Peruvian cuisine is celebrated across the globe... Let's explore the reasons behind its widespread appreciation! Indulge in the fruits, vegetables and other produce of this land, visiting a local market and sampling fresh juices. At a cooking class, we will prepare traditional Peruvian beverages and meals: Pisco sour, Ceviche and Lomo Saltado before enjoying a delightful lunch at Señorío de Sulco Restaurant. Visit one of Lima's finest establishments, the Larco Museum, displaying a huge collection of pre-Colombian art and artifacts. This museum provides an excellent overview of Peru's ancient history. **BLD**

NOV 6, Thursday

CUZCO / SACRED VALLEY

We fly into the heart of Peru to Cuzco, set in a natural basin in the Andes Mountains. On arrival, we will be met by our local guide and proceed to the Sacred Valley. For lunch, you'll have the opportunity to enjoy a delicious pachamanca, a traditional Inca dish cooked in hot rocks underground, with its name meaning "earth oven" in Quechua. Begin this experience by participating in preparing the pachamanca and learning about its rich history and culture. The menu includes chicken, pork, and lamb, a side with Andean potatoes, sweet potatoes, organic vegetables, homemade salad, traditional sauces, and purple corn drink (chicha morada). This activity lasts for 2 hours. **Tierra Viva Valle (2 nights)** **BL**

NOV 7, Friday

SACRED VALLEY

We continue our exploration of the Sacred Valley in Maras, learning about their salt extraction process. At the village of Chicheria, we discover the many uses of corn. Visit the

circular terraces of Moray to see how and where crops were developed in ancient times. Following lunch at Muña Restaurant, visit the fortress of Ollantaytambo, which was built when the Spaniards first arrived. This visit involves many stairs. Nearby, we find traditional Inca stone houses over 500 years old that are still in use. BLD

NOV 8, Saturday MACHU PICCHU / CUZCO

We journey by rail to Machu Picchu through the truly spectacular scenery of the Río Urubamba, enjoying views of snow-capped Andean peaks in the distance. When we reach Aguas Calientes, small coaches will take us up the steep mountain to the ruins of Machu Picchu. The Incas hid Machu Picchu high in the clouds as a strategic vantage point. We will enjoy a guided visit of the ruins with lunch included at Machu Picchu Sanctuary Lodge. This afternoon we return by rail to Cuzco, once the Incan capital, and still one of the best preserved colonial cities in the Andes.

Cuzco Novotel (2 nights) BL

NOV 9, Sunday CUZCO

This morning's city tour will feature the Santo Domingo Monastery, the Plaza de Armas, the cathedral built on the ruins of the Inca Palace and the old town with its magnificent, restored colonial buildings. We shall also visit Sacsayhuaman and other Inca ruins located just north of Cuzco, offering fabulous views of the city and mountains. Tonight, we enjoy dinner at Inca Grill Restaurant. BD

NOV 10, Monday CUZCO / PUNO

Today's spectacular coach journey takes us to Puno. Relax as towering mountains and rolling farmlands unfold before us. Highlight visits will include the district of Andahuaylillas, an ancient Inca site noted for its beautiful baroque church, La Raya Mountain ranges and the Lithic Museum in Pukara. Puno is the folkloric capital of Peru, set on the banks of Lake Titicaca, the world's highest navigable lake.

Sonesta Posadas del Inca (2 nights) BLD

NOV 11, Tuesday PUNO / LAKE TITICACA

Journey by boat to the floating islands of Lake Titicaca, Uros and Taquile. The Uros natives live on floating 'islands' made by hand from totora reeds that grow in abundance in the shallow waters of the lake. This unique practice has endured since the time of the Incas. Today there are some 45 floating islands in the Bay of Puno. The largest, Huacavacani, has homes and a church while others have schools, a post office, and souvenir shops. BLD

NOV 12, Wednesday PUNO / COLCA VALLEY

Visit Sillustani, by Lake Umayo, and see the huge cylinder-shaped ruins used by pre-Incan tribes to bury their nobility. Continue overland to Colca Valley in the Aguada Blanca National Reserve, an area that is noted for its population of Vicunas. En route, we will enjoy a boxed lunch while we admire the pre-Columbian terraces, still being cultivated by the native Collaguas tribe.

Hotel Colca Lodge (1 night) BLD

NOV 13, Thursday COLCA / AREQUIPA

This morning's highlight will be the impressive views of the spectacular Colca Canyon, one of the deepest in the world at almost 10,000 feet. We pay a visit to Condor's Cross, a wonderful vantage point from which we can see these majestic birds. We journey toward Arequipa, passing the charming villages of Yanque, Maca, Achoma and Pinchollo along the way.

Casa Andina Premium (2 nights) BLD



Warm welcoming smiles in Peru



Cuzco, Peru



Sacred Valley, Preparing for a traditional Andean soup



Get lost in the magic of Machu Picchu

NOV 14, Friday**AREQUIPA**

We'll immerse ourselves in the beauty of the White City as we explore the historic centre of Arequipa, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The local Jesuit Church is one of Peru's finest examples of mestizo baroque style. The Convent of Santa Catalina, dating from 1579, contains a small town with homes for the nuns, cloisters, plazas, kitchens, refectory and much more. BD

NOV 15, Saturday**AREQUIPA / LIMA / PARACAS**

After our short morning flight back to Lima, we travel south on the Pan-American Highway following the coast to the Paracas Peninsula, a very pleasant seaside resort. En route, we will be fascinated by the recent agricultural developments along the coast.

Aranwa Paracas Hotel (2 nights) BD

NOV 16, Sunday**HUACACHINA / NASCA PLAINS**

We'll take to the skies to experience a 90-minute flight over the mysterious Nasca Plains - the best way to truly grasp the vastness and wonder of these ancient geoglyphs. This afternoon we will visit a local winery and the Oasis of Huacachina, where the desert has been reclaimed and turned into a farming paradise. Balance of afternoon and evening at leisure. BL

NOV 17, Monday**PARACAS / LIMA**

This morning, we take an excursion by boat to the nature reserve of the Ballestas Islands, where we have opportunities to see great varieties of wildlife including boobies, sea lions and penguins. With clear weather, we can see, from a distance, the mysterious Candelabra markings. We return to Lima for a late dinner in the city.

Costa del Sol Wyndham Airport Hotel (1 night) BD

NOV 18, Tuesday**ARRIVE CANADA**

This morning we depart Lima to travel home. Arriving in Toronto, we make direct connections to our homes across Canada.



Arequipa Cathedral

REV26JUN25

CT Rating 4/5 - Very Challenging: Members will travel at high altitudes (between 8,000 and 11,000 feet above sea level) and may be affected by altitude sickness. Expect pleasant to hot weather throughout. This tour involves some long travel days by air, rail and coach through areas with limited facilities and includes some difficult walks and climbs (with many steps). Members must be in excellent physical health with no mobility issues to fully enjoy this journey.

SMALL GROUP EXPERIENCE

LIMITED TO ONLY 20 MEMBERS

Tour Cost in Canadian Dollars Per Person

Land Only* (Join / Leave Hotel).....	\$7,085
Toronto	\$8,175
Ottawa / Montreal	\$8,375
Halifax / St. John's / Winnipeg / Moncton	\$8,475
Regina / Saskatoon	\$8,575
Calgary / Edmonton / Vancouver.....	\$8,525
Victoria.....	\$8,575
Single Supplement	\$1,495

*Land Only price includes domestic flights in Peru but excludes international flights and arrival/departure transfers in destination. Airfares from other gateways are available on request. Airfares and air carriers will be confirmed prior to final payment. Refer to inclusive features for more details.

Prices are based on taxes, surcharges, airfares and exchange rates effective September 2024 and are subject to change due to factors beyond our control. Tour prices are per person, based on sharing a double/twin room at hotels and a minimum of 20 participants travelling. Group to be escorted with a minimum of 20 group members.

Insurance is NOT INCLUDED but is highly recommended. Premiums are calculated based on the individual's age, destination (country), trip length, and trip booking window – please contact our staff to receive a quote. Your coverage starts on the effective date of your confirmation of coverage. Please discuss your insurance coverage prior to booking. Check our website for the most current information. Refer to the enrollment form for terms and conditions.

Final payment is due on July 31, 2025
Deposit is \$800 per person

To reserve your spot on this tour, you can either book online through our website or submit an enrollment form along with your deposit to:



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