



PERU

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Introduction to Peru



Peru: A Tropical Destination with Mystical Musings

With a perfect location along the Pacific coast and just south of the Equator, Peru offers a stunningly beautiful, tropical climate that gives way to a variety of travel options. When planning Peru travel, you can easily mix things up with visits to the cities of **Lima** and **Cuzco**, heading deep into the **Amazon** rainforest or tempting yourself with outdoor adventure in the **Andes**.

There's Magic in the Hills



One cannot plan travel to Peru or think of looking through a Peru travel guide without making an excursion to **Machu Picchu**. This ancient mystical place is great for adventure travelers and families traveling to Peru—and is a definite priority on any Peru vacation. You can plan your getaway to the "Lost City" nestled high in the Andes Mountains through any number of tour operators, but definitely go with a tour guide. All Machu Picchu trips set off from Cuzco and can include side trips to the colorful ruins of the **Sacred Valley**. This awe-inspiring Wonder of the World will leave you breathless.

Surf, Hike, Sail & Fish



Eco-tourism is one of the biggest draws of Peru travel and with access to ocean, rainforest and snow-capped mountains, it's no wonder why. Peru's diverse climate allows for hot gorgeous beach adventures with scuba diving; exploratory skiing in **Pastoruri** in the southern **Cordillera Blanca**, and navigating the rainforests of the Amazon. Head to **Arequipa**, where the three volcanoes— **El Misti**, **Chachani** and **PichuPichu**—surround the city and offer volcano hiking and downhill volcano biking in varying degrees of difficulty. Hike the **Inca Trail** en route to **Machu Picchu**. Spend time in a lodge learning about the biodiversity of the **Amazon**. Or just surf off the coast of **Lima** and get back in time for dinner.

Life in Lima



The best time to visit Lima during any Peru vacation is between December and April when the coastal fog breaks and the sun shines bright on the city's gorgeous beaches. With diverse restaurants and shopping, Lima is a cosmopolitan city with a diverse population. Be sure to visit the **Plaza de Armas**, where you can watch the changing of the guard at the **Government Palace**. Any history buff must visit the **Museum of Anthropology and Archaeology** to marvel at the collection of pottery and textiles. Spend time in the **San Isidro** and **Miraflores** neighborhoods to shop, eat and enjoy theatre.

Romance...with a Twist



If adventure equals romance, then you will delight in travel to Peru. **Machu Picchu's** magic and energy should work wonders. Then take the train to the **Sol y Luna Lodge** in the **Sacred Valley of the Inca**. This stone and adobe inn is nestled deep inside a lush valley where you can enjoy tennis, delicious fare and spa treatments. If exotic birds and giant otters get your heart racing, visit the all-inclusive **Manu Wildlife Center**. When you want to kick back on the beach, visit the white sandy shores of Lima's **Playa El Silencio**, then dine at **La Rosa Nautica**, possibly Lima's most romantic

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