

Peru & Rio de Janeiro

April 2012



12 Apr

Lima

Depart Newcastle and arrive into Lima via Paris with Air France in economy class.

Depart Newcastle 06:20 Arrive Paris 09:20
Depart Paris 10:35 Arrive Lima 15:50

On arrival, you will be met and taken to the Ramada Costa del Sol Hotel for an overnight stay.

13 Apr

Arequipa

Private transfer to the airport to meet a flight to Arequipa.

Depart Lima 05:30 Arrive 07:00



On arrival, private transfer to Posadas del Inca for an overnight stay. One of the finest hotels in Arequipa, the Posada del Inca is centrally located in the Main Square (Plaza del Armas) in a beautifully converted town house. The views from the arched balconies look across to the twin-towered cathedral and snow-capped El Misti Volcano in the distance. There are 58 comfortable rooms with en-suite facilities, a rooftop swimming pool, large bar and alfresco restaurant serving Arequipan dishes and international cuisine.

Shared afternoon tour of the city and the Santa Catalina Convent.

The attractive city of Arequipa is located at an altitude of 2353 metres, in a fertile valley surrounded by beautiful snow capped volcanoes. Many people refer to Arequipa as the 'White City', due to the white volcanic rock which has been used to construct the buildings. Founded by Spanish conquistadors in 1540, Arequipa offers some of finest examples of colonial architecture in Peru. There is a beautiful cathedral, a grand central plaza, several small churches and the unique Santa Catalina Convent. Explore the narrow cobbled streets and brightly painted cloisters of the convent, the most important religious monument in Peru.



Posadas del Inca / 1 x Standard Room / Breakfast

14 Apr

Colca Canyon



Shared transfer by road (around 4 hours) to the Colca Canyon. You will stop en-route at points of interest including Pampa Canahuas to see vicunas and other wildlife, Patapampa to enjoy a cup of coca tea and Mirador de los Volcanoes for stunning views of the surrounding volcanoes. Arrive at the small town of Chivay in time for lunch at a local restaurant. Overnight accommodation at the Colca Lodge. A lovely low level property, the lodge is located close to the Colca River and has great views. This rustic lodge has 36 bedrooms built of traditional materials, each with heating, hot water and a terrace. Other facilities include a restaurant, living room with a large fireplace, bar and games room. There are also 3 private thermal baths which are fed by volcanic hot springs making a perfect place to relax under a star-filled sky after a day of exploring the Colca Valley! Afternoon at leisure to relax.

N.B. The thermal baths are closed in February and March.

Colca Lodge / 1 x Standard Room / Half Board

15 Apr

Arequipa

Full day shared tour of the Colca Canyon.

An early start is required this morning to visit the observation point at 'Cruz del Condor'. From this location, you will be able to appreciate the grandeur of the canyon and hopefully spot the beautiful Andean condors, the largest flying bird in the world. The wingspan of these mighty creatures of the Andes can reach up to 3 metres. You will also visit the traditional villages of Pinchollo, Maca, Achorma and Yanque and the viewpoints at Antahuilque and Choquetico. After lunch at a local restaurant you will visit the town of Coporaque and a short walk to the Uyo Uyo archaeological remains.



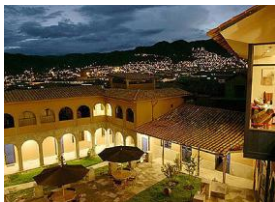
In the afternoon, transfer by road back to Arequipa and the Posadas del Inca for an overnight stay.
Posadas del Inca / 1 x Standard Room / Breakfast

16 Apr

Cuzco

Private transfer to the airport to meet a flight to Cuzco.

Depart Arequipa 09:40 Arrive Cuzco 10:45



On arrival, private transfer to the Casa Andina San Blas Hotel for 2 nights. The Casa Andina Classic San Blas has a lovely peaceful location in the traditional San Blas quarter, 5 blocks away from the hustle and bustle of the Plaza de Armas. It boasts a beautiful central courtyard and wonderful views of Cusco from almost all of its rooms.

Afternoon shared tour of Cuzco and nearby Inca ruins.

At an altitude of 3000 metres, Cuzco is the most captivating town in the Peruvian Andes. Capital of the Inca Empire, the town was later built upon and expanded by the Spanish. The blend of such differing architectural styles has resulted in a unique cityscape, making Cuzco a real must see destination. You could easily spend a week here, every street and square has its own charm and history just waiting to be discovered. Many of the winding cobbled lanes are still flanked by their original Inca high stone walls. The walls were created with incredible precision by cutting large blocks of stone into various sizes and shapes, all of which would then link in perfectly with each other requiring no adhesive to bond them together. Marvel at the many ornate and opulent churches or hunt out a bargain at one of the local markets. Inca ruins are scattered all over the town and religious and ceremonial sites are also easy to find on the outskirts. The tour of Cuzco includes visit to the Cathedral, Koricancha, Sacsayhuaman and Kenko. There is also an optional walk to Tambomachay (it takes around 10 mins).



Casa Andina San Blas / 1 x Traditional Room / Breakfast

17 Apr

Cuzco

Day at leisure to explore this fascination city.

Casa Andina San Blas / 1 x Traditional Room / Breakfast

18 Apr

Sacred Valley

Shared full day excursion to the Sacred Valley (inc. lunch).



A short distance from Cusco, the Sacred Valley stretches along the Urubamba River and is a beautiful region of rolling countryside and many well preserved Inca sites. The town of Pisac is renowned for the colourful artisans and antiques market held in the main plaza on a Sunday morning, although smaller markets are also held on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Hundreds of stalls fill the central square and sellers come from the surrounding villages, many of them remote populations high in the Andes, wearing the dress typical of their village. Even if you're not a committed shopper, it's an event you shouldn't miss! The small village of

Ollantaytambo is one of the oldest recorded settlements in the Americas and is surrounded by snow-capped mountains. The fortress that looms high above the town witnessed one of the few Inca victories over the Spanish. Below the ruins, Ollantaytambo's old town is a splendid grid of streets dating to Inca times and lined with adobe brick walls, blooming bougainvillea and Inca water channels which still cut through the cobbled streets carrying rushing water down from the mountains.

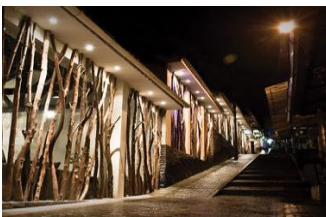
Overnight at La Hacienda del Valle. Ideally located in the heart of the Sacred Valley and only 10 minutes from the train station at Ollantaytambo, La Hacienda offers 29 comfortable rooms with large en-suite marble bathrooms. There is a pleasant restaurant serving a buffet breakfast and a la carte lunches and dinner.

La Hacienda del Valle / 1 x Standard Room / Breakfast

19 Apr

Machu Picchu

Shared transfer from your hotel to the station at Ollantaytambo to meet the Expedition Train to Machu Picchu Aguas Calientes. On arrival in Aguas Calientes you will be met and taken on a shared guided visit of the ruins at Machu Picchu. The location, high up and hidden away amongst dense vegetation, combined with the scale and mysticism of the site, make Machu Picchu a magical destination. 'Re-discovered' by American explorer Hiram Bingham in 1911, much of the architecture of the 'lost city' remains today, wander around and you'll see temples, sundials, towers and palaces. You will explore the site with your guide before having lunch at the Café Inkaterra in Aguas Calientes.



Dinner and overnight at El Mapi Hotel. El Mapi is a smart and contemporary hotel located just a few steps from the main square and the train station. The are 48 bright and airy rooms each with blackout curtains, 100% cotton sheets, down duvets, hypoallergenic pillows, cotton bath robes, natural herbal amenities, flat screen TVs and tight-focus reading lights. There is a comfortable lounge and bar and an informal cafe serving a range of food and drinks throughout the day.

El Mapi Hotel / 1 x Superior Room / Half Board

20 Apr

This morning you will rise early to catch a 6am bus up to the ruins for a second time (bus ticket and entrance to the site and the peak of Huayna Picchu included / no guide). Arriving at dawn means you will avoid the crowds and if the sky is clear the sunrise can be truly spectacular. Entrance to climb the peak of Huayna Picchu is also included from where you get stunning views looking down on the site and of the surrounding Andean peaks and deep valleys. In the afternoon, make your own way to the train station to board your return Expedition Train to Ollantaytambo. On arrival, shared transfer back to Cuzco and the Casa Andina San Blas Hotel for an overnight stay.

Casa Andina San Blas Hotel / 1 x Traditional Room / Breakfast

Cuzco



21 Apr

Private transfer to the airport to meet a flight to Lima.

Depart Cuzco 14:25 Arrive Lima 15:50

On arrival, private transfer to Allpa Hotel for an overnight stay.

Allpa Hotel / 1 x Standard Room / Breakfast

Lima

22 Apr

Private transfer to the airport to meet a flight to Rio de Janeiro via Sao Paulo.

*Depart Lima 12:55
Depart Sao Paulo 21:40*

*Arrive Sao Paulo 19:30
Arrive Rio de Janeiro 22:35*

Rio de Janeiro



On arrival, private transfer to the Porto Bay Rio Internacional Hotel for 4 nights. A new hotel located in the heart of Copacabana, the Porto Bay Rio boasts stylish accommodation, a beautiful waterfront setting, lovely views and easy access to the world famous Copacabana Beach. All rooms include balconies with a view of the sea, cable TV, central air conditioning, mini-bar, bath-tub and a personal safe. Other facilities include a sauna, swimming pool, fitness centre, laundry room, massage room, concierge service and beach service.

Porto Bay Rio Internacional Hotel / 1 x Superior Room / Breakfast

23 Apr

Shared half day tour of Sugar Loaf Mountain and the city.

An iconic symbol of the city, Sugarloaf Mountain is a huge granite slab at the entrance of Guanabara Bay. You will take the tour in two stages in glass cable-cars. The first cable-car takes you to the top of Urca Hill, which rises 215m above sea level, before you continue in a second cable car to the top of Sugar Loaf Mountain itself at 395m. From the top there are truly spectacular 360-degree views of the entire city, beaches and bay beneath.

Porto Bay Rio Internacional Hotel / 1 x Superior Room / Breakfast

Rio de Janeiro



24 Apr



Shared half day tour of Corcovado.

Visit the Christ Statue, recently voted one of the seven modern wonders of the world, which sits 2,300 above sea level, atop Corcovado Hill. Following a scenic drive along the Rodrigo de Freitas Lagoon, you will arrive at the foot of the hill from where you take the small train ride which climbs this beautiful mountain. From the summit there is a stunning panoramic view of Rio de Janeiro. There is also time for a drive along Rio's famous beaches.

Porto Bay Rio Internacional Hotel / 1 x Superior Room / Breakfast

Rio de Janeiro

25 Apr

Day at leisure.

Porto Bay Rio Internacional Hotel / 1 x Superior Room / Breakfast

Rio de Janeiro

26 Apr

Private transfer to the airport to meet your return flight with Air France in economy class.

Depart

*Depart Rio de Janeiro 19:00 Arrive Paris 11:10 (on the 27th)
Depart Paris 15:30 Arrive Newcastle 16:20*

27 Apr

Arrive back into Newcastle via Paris.

Cost

The per person cost for the above itinerary in a double room would be: **£3270.00**

Includes

- International flights as listed.
- Internal flights as listed in economy class.
- All pre-payable airport departure taxes.
- Hotel accommodation as listed.
- Transfers as listed (on a shared basis unless specified as private).
- Meals as listed.
- Excursions as listed (on a shared basis unless specified as private).

Excludes

- Local departure taxes,
- Tips and gratuities.
- Any future currency surcharges.
- Any future airline fare, tax or fuel surcharges.*
**In the event of airfare /tax increases you will have the option to pay for your airfare in advance to avoid these increases.*

Please note

- This is a quotation valid for 7 days only from 16 December 2011.
- All flights, accommodation and services are subject to availability at the time of booking.

Booking Conditions

- 50% deposit is required to secure this booking to ensure we can issue all flights and guarantee the best airfares for you.
- The quote is based on a special offer with Air France which expires on the 20th December 2011.
- The final balance would be due 10 weeks prior to departure.

Contact Details:

Tel: 01242 890 555

Email: sales@distinctiveamericas.com

Web: www.distinctiveamericas.com

STAND OUT FROM THE CROWD...

Why book your holiday to Peru with Distinctive Americas?

- **Expertise and experience**

As a specialist tour operator to Latin America we have travelled extensively in Peru to ensure our knowledge of the destination is second to none. We are always delighted to be able to share our knowledge and make personal recommendations. Our partners in Peru have been receiving visitors since 1956, our partners utilize all of their 55 years of experience to ensure your holiday to Peru meets your expectations.

- **Value for money**

As a small specialist operator dealing with Latin America for many years we have negotiated the best rates to ensure you the best value for money on all your travel arrangements.

- **Making the most of Machu Picchu**

Machu Picchu is the highlight of any trip to Peru. If you are having an overnight stay close to the site, we will include as standard, your entrance fee to the site and also to the peak of Huayna Picchu for a second visit the next morning.

- **Ease at airports**

Holiday in Peru can often involve a number of flights to take in the full diversity of the country. We provide assistance at all airports for your all flights.

- **24 hour support**

When you are away we are always only a phone call away. We have 24 hour emergency phone numbers for both our partners in Peru and also to us here in UK.

- **An informed visit**

You will receive a detailed welcome pack on arrival in Peru including a detailed itinerary of your holiday and wealth of information on Peru including maps of the main cities and destinations. For all your guided excursions we used qualified, experienced and knowledgeable English-speaking guides.

- **Financial protection**

When booking with Distinctive Americas you are safe in the knowledge that we are full bonded with Civil Aviation Authority and hold an Air Tour Operators Licence (ATOL 9027).