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INSPIRING VACATIONS



26 DAY INSPIRING SOUTH AMERICA & GALAPAGOS SMALL GROUP TOUR (2027)

PUERTO MALDONADO
PERU AMAZON JUNGLE
CUSCO
SACRED VALLEY
MACHU PICCHU
PUNO
LAKE TITICACA
BUENOS AIRES
IGUAZU FALLS
LIMA

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FROM

$17,595 AUD

PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE

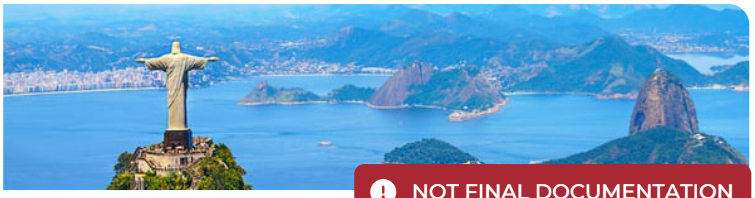
A 26 Day journey of culture, beauty, and unforgettable experiences in South America and the Galapagos awaits: explore vibrant cities, experience the majesty of Iguazu Falls, visit the iconic landmarks of Rio, and journey to Machu Picchu. Get close to nature with an unforgettable Amazon eco-lodge stay and the stunning Galapagos.

Book Now

TOUR ITINERARY



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Itinerary

DAY 1

Destination	Buenos Aires
Meals included	No meals
Hotel	4 ★ Kenton Palace Buenos Aires, or similar

Welcome to Argentina!

This beautiful city, on the banks of the Río de la Plata, is a city of contrasts. You'll find grand avenues with fine European architecture, and vibrant neighbourhoods buzzing with Latin American flair – it is the birthplace of tango, after all.

The food scene in Buenos Aires is happening. If you're a fan of steak, a visit to a parrilla (steakhouse) is in order – Argentines are known for their love of beef and asado (barbeque). Make like a Porteño and grab a choripán, a classic Argentinian hot dog made with chorizo. There are plenty of food stands dotted around the city where you can buy an empanada, the classic Argentine snack. You'll also find great ice cream, especially the Argentine favourite dulce de leche flavour.

People eat dinner late around here – and head out to nightclubs even later! Argentina's oldest and arguably most famous café, Café Tortoni, is a great place for coffee and people watching – and to see the tango performed onstage. Café con leche, anyone?

Special Information

Airport transfers are not included. Our transfer portal offers the option to book your airport transfers for an easier arrival experience (additional charges apply). Access to this portal will be available through your Traveller Hub once your booking is confirmed.

Hotel check-in time is at 3pm. If arriving prior to this, you will be able to leave your luggage with hotel reception and explore your surroundings until check-in becomes available. The hotel may grant early check-in, however this is strictly subject to availability and at the hotel's discretion.

Upon check-in at the hotel, you'll be handed a welcome note with your meeting time for tomorrow.

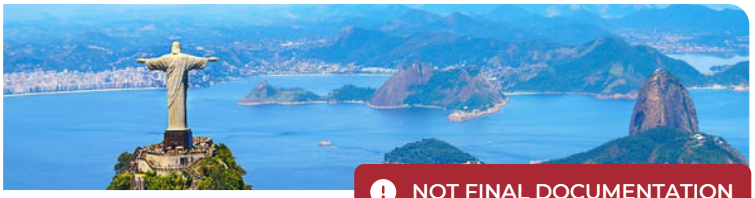
DAY 2

Destination	Buenos Aires ✈ Iguazu Falls
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	3 ★ Hotel Rafain Centro, or similar

In the morning, meet your local tour guide at approximately 8am for a welcome meeting and a briefing on the trip ahead. This meeting will be followed by a city tour of Buenos Aires before transferring to the airport for your flight to Iguazu.

During the city tour we'll head to Plaza de Mayo (Main Square) and see the pink-hued Casa Rosada (Government Palace) – this is, of course, where Juan and Eva Perón delivered famous speeches from the balconies. See Metropolitan Cathedral and City Hall followed by some free time for lunch (not included). Learn more about Argentina's passion – fútbol (football) – by visiting vibrant La Boca. We'll pass by La Bombonera, the iconic stadium of

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the Boca Juniors, and see Puerto Madero on the waterfront, the most modern neighbourhood of the city. We'll finish with a visit to the upscale Recoleta neighbourhood, with its elegant buildings and the most exclusive pocket of the city, Alvear Avenue.

The flight to Puerto Iguazu is approximately 1.5hrs long. On arrival you will be transferred across to the Brazil side of the falls for your accommodation.

The Iguazu Falls are located where the Iguazu River cascades over the edge of the Paraná Plateau, created by an enormous volcanic eruption more than 130 million years ago. Straddling the Argentine-Brazil border, the falls are made up of up to 275 individual waterfalls, lining a 2.7km-wide horseshoe-shaped gorge. It's a truly breathtaking sight to see the unyielding force of nature in such a magnificent setting.

Inspiring Highlights

- Buenos Aires Plaza de Mayo
- La Boca

Special Information
Your travel time today will be approximately 5 hours.

Your included flight allows one checked bag up to 15kg (33 lbs), and one 7kg (15 lbs) carry-on, with options to increase your luggage allowance at the airport if needed. Your flight will be unescorted, however your tour guide will assist you on either end to ensure that your journey is trouble free.

On your departure from Buenos Aires you will say goodbye to your tour guide, and your group will be met by a local guide in Iguazu, who will meet and greet you, coordinate your activities in town and be reachable to assist you as needed. Local guides, frequently native to the area, lead tours at specific sites or attractions, offering a deeper understanding of the local history, art, or way of life.

Brazil has introduced an online visa requirement. Please refer to the *Pre-Tour Essentials* section below for further information.

DAY 3

Destination	Iguazu Falls
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	3 ★ Hotel Rafain Centro, or similar

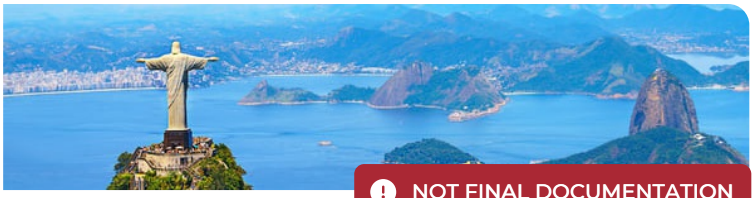
These spectacular falls can be viewed from both sides; the Brazilian side offers a broader, panoramic view, and the Argentinian side offers a series of catwalks that allow you to experience the Falls up close.

This morning after breakfast you'll explore Iguazu Falls from the Argentinian side. Beginning at the visitor's centre, you'll explore the upper footbridges. These footbridges, raised off the jungle floor, provide panoramic views from above the falls.

The noise as these mighty falls plunge to the bottom of the narrow canyon is almost deafening. There's the chance of getting under the falls, with an optional excursion, the Gran Aventura.

You'll return to the hotel in the afternoon to enjoy the evening at your leisure.

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Inspiring Highlights

- Iguazu Falls - Argentinian Side

OPTIONAL TOUR - THE GRAN AVENTURA

The best way to experience the falls is to get right in the action. You'll travel through lush landscape by specially designed tracks. This five-kilometre long ride ends at Puerto Macuco. Board a small jet boat and explore Lower Iguazu River for as long as six kilometres, heading towards the waterfalls area to enjoy the sight of plenty of small cascades. From the Tres Mosqueteros Falls, see the falls on both the Argentinian and Brazilian sides crowned by the view of the Garganta del Diablo (Devil's Throat). Afterwards, it's surely a highlight when you face the incomparable San Martín waterfall. After that we'll navigate downriver to Puerto Macuco. You'll walk up the hill, about 150 metres, and ride a truck back to the starting point. Following your tour you will be transferred back to your hotel.

Meeting Point: Iguazu Falls Visitor Centre or nearby designated areas
Includes: Jungle ride by truck, jet boat ride, lifejacket and professional guides
Start Time: 11:30 am or 12:45pm
Duration: 2 hours

Please note: This tour is unsuitable for pregnant women, people with back injuries, heart conditions or those with hearing aids. Children under 12 are not permitted to join this tour. Poncho's or raincoats are not provided so be prepared to get very wet!

Operation of the Gran Aventura is subject to appropriate water levels.

DAY 4

Destination	Iguazu Falls ✈ Rio de Janeiro
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	4 ★ Windsor Leme Hotel - Rio de Janeiro, or similar

After breakfast, you'll tour the relatively dry Brazilian side of the falls, with breathtaking panoramic views at every turn. Uninterrupted vistas of the Floriana Falls, the Devil's Gorge canyon and the Iguazu River are spectacular and guaranteed to impress.

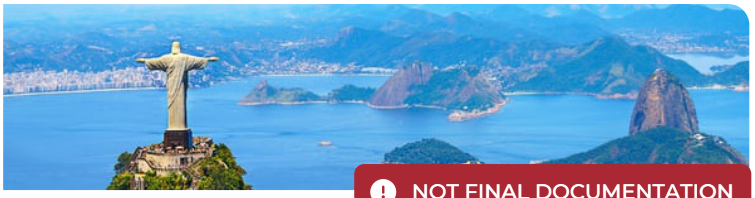
You'll then be transferred to the airport for your flight to Rio de Janeiro.

Bem vindo ao Rio - Welcome to Rio! You'll be met at Galeao International Airport and transferred to your hotel in Copacabana, on the city's dazzling iconic shoreline.

Nicknamed a cidade maravilhosa (the marvellous city), Rio de Janeiro is world-renowned for its dazzling landscapes and location, nestled between steep, green mountains and crystal-clear seas.

The city is a UNESCO World Heritage Site for not only its 'staggeringly beautiful location', but its cultural landscape. The city is full of energy. Cariocas, the locals of Rio, are known for their carefree spirit and charm.

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Rio is one of the most important cultural and economic cities in Brazil and is home to some of the country's most famous attractions, like Sugarloaf Mountain (Pão de Açúcar), Corcovado Hill, and Copacabana and Ipanema beaches. The city comes alive for Carnival celebrations each winter, an extravagant pre-Lenten spectacle with street parades and samba parties.

Enjoy a free night to explore this fantastic city.

Inspiring Highlights

- Iguazu Falls - Brazilian Side

Special Information
Your travel time today will be approximately 6 hours.

On your departure from Iguazu you will say goodbye to your tour guide, and your group will be met by a local guide in Rio de Janeiro, who will meet and greet you, coordinate your activities in town and be reachable to assist you as needed.

Your included flight allows one checked bag up to 23kg (51lbs), and one 7kg (15 lbs) carry-on, with options to increase your luggage allowance at the airport if needed. Your flight will be unescorted, however your tour guide will assist you on either end to ensure that your journey is trouble free.

OPTIONAL TOUR - IGUAZU FALLS HELICOPTER FLIGHT

Get a spectacular aerial view of Iguazu Falls during a 10-minute helicopter ride. Board a state-of-the-art helicopter flown by an experienced pilot in Foz do Iguaçu. You'll soar above the magnificent falls to get a bird's-eye view of the rushing water and the surrounding rainforest while enjoying commentary from your pilot. Be sure to bring your camera for amazing photo opportunities and your passport for the border crossing.

Meeting Point: Close to the Iguazu National Park entrance
Includes: 10 minute Helicopter Ride
Start Time: Operates on demand
Duration: 10 minutes plus queuing time

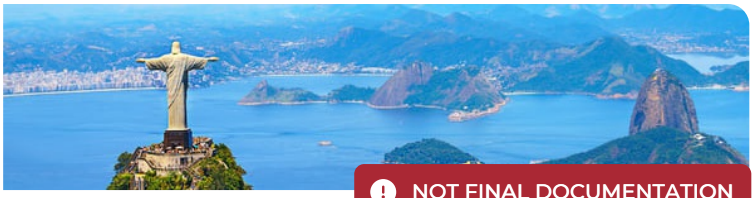
DAY 5

Destination	Rio de Janeiro
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch
Hotel	4 ★ Windsor Leme Hotel - Rio de Janeiro, or similar

This morning after breakfast, you'll meet your local guide who will welcome you and brief you on the next couple days. Then we'll embark on a full day tour of Rio de Janeiro to see the city's famous landmarks, like Christ the Redeemer and Sugarloaf Mountain.

We'll take a scenic drive from Copacabana Beach, continuing along Botafogo Beach and passing the imposing Guanabara Palace on the way to Corcovado Hill. At the top we'll find the greatest national icon, Christ the Redeemer, standing tall over the city with arms outstretched. This giant Art Deco statue was recently named as one of the New Seven Wonders of the World. The panoramic views of the city are lovely from up here, 709 metres at the summit.

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We'll then continue on to the district of Urca and the world-famous rocky peak of Sugarloaf Mountain, where you'll board the first cable car to the top of Urca Hill, enjoying spectacular views of Guanabara Bay.

A second cable car takes you on to Sugarloaf, with 360-degree views of the city and surroundings. Sugarloaf Mountain towers over the harbour, 400 metres above the mouth of Guanabara Bay.

Afterwards, we'll pass through the famous beaches of Copacabana and Ipanema en route to a traditional Brazilian lunch at a local churrascaria, an all-you-can-eat barbeque.

After lunch, we'll visit the Maracanã Stadium, home of Bellini's statue and the Hall of Fame. Brazilians also love their football (soccer) and this is their biggest stadium. Entrance to the stadium is not included. And there will be a stop at the Sambadrome, the stadium for the city's main Carnival parade.

As we pass through the city's historic centre, you'll have a chance to see the Lapa Arches. Built in the middle of the 18th century, this aqueduct is an impressive example of colonial architecture and engineering. We'll also make a quick stop to see the colourful Selaron Stairs, an amazing urban work of art by the late Jorge Selaron. These steps are decorated with more than 2,000 brightly coloured tiles and mirrors.

We'll return to the hotel along Aterro de Flamengo (Flamengo Park), passing by the Monument to the Dead of World War II and the beaches of Flamengo and Botafogo.

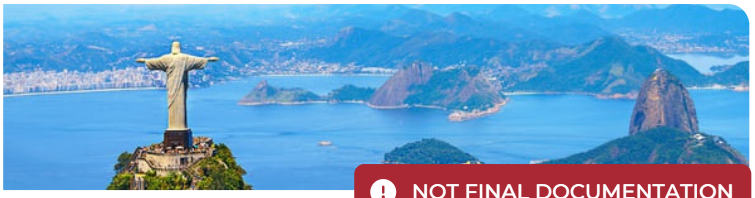
Tonight will be another night at your leisure to soak up the nightlife of Rio.

Inspiring Highlights

- Christ the Redeemer
- Sugarloaf Mountain
- Copacabana Beach
- Churrascaria Lunch
- Maracanã Stadium
- Selaron Stairs

Please note: Maintenance work is taking place at Christ the Redeemer until the end of May 2027, and the escalators are currently out of service. Your visit will proceed as normal to the second level of Alto Corcovado using the lifts and stairs, however from this point you will need to take the stairs to reach the Christ the Redeemer platform. Please be prepared for some additional walking and stair climbing. To allow enough time, departure from your hotel will be around 7:00 am, so we recommend arranging an early breakfast (most hotels begin serving from approximately 6:00 am). Your guide will explain the arrangements on the day.

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OPTIONAL TOUR - DINNER AT RIO SCENARIUM

Rio Scenarium sits in Lapa, the bohemian quarter of Rio, in an old building filled floor to ceiling with pieces collected from antique shops, so the room itself feels like a step back into the nineteenth century. There are two live sets a night covering samba, MPB, choro, forro and gafieira, and dinner is a three course meal with drinks. You will be collected from your hotel and returned at the end of the night.

Meeting Point: Your hotel in Rio de Janeiro
How to get there: Return hotel transfers are included.
Includes: Return hotel transfers, entry to Rio Scenarium, a three course dinner and drinks.
Start Time: TO BE CONFIRMED
End Time: TO BE CONFIRMED

Please note: *A minimum of 2 travellers is required and the maximum group size is 24.*

DAY 6

Destination	Rio de Janeiro
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	4 ★ Windsor Leme Hotel - Rio de Janeiro, or similar

Today is a free day for you to enjoy the rhythm of this vibrant, bustling city. Your tour guide will be at hand to assist with suggestions and optional activities. Relax on the legendary beaches of Copacabana and Ipanema or take one of the tours on offer to explore more of this iconic city.

The famous crescent-shaped beach of Copacabana is a tourist hotspot. It's lively, vibrant and busy... round-the-clock busy. The golden sand stretches nearly four kilometres long, from Copacabana Fort to Leme Beach. It's lined with high-rise hotels, including the iconic Copacabana where Barry Manilow penned that hit in the 1970s.

Wander the iconic black and white promenade – it's everything you imagined. Swaying palm trees, skimpy bikinis and people sunning themselves, playing volleyball, dancing and swimming. Beach vendors stroll up and down the shore, selling all manner of snacks, souvenirs and drinks.

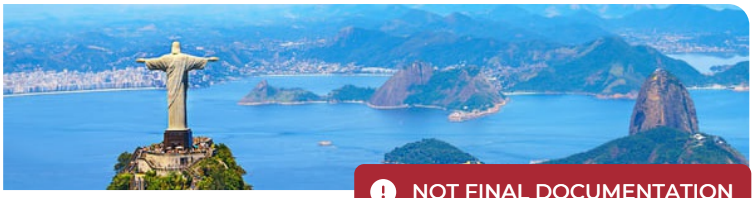
Ipanema Beach is more upscale, the place to see and be seen. You'll find more locals chilling out here.

If you are planning to take a dip in the warm Carioca waters, make sure you leave your belongings at your hotel. Unfortunately, opportunistic theft can be a regular occurrence.

If you want to relax off the beach, the Rio de Janeiro Botanical Gardens are lovely for a stroll. There's a Japanese garden, a pond filled with water lilies and 600 species of orchids.

Head to the Benedictine Church and Monastery of São Bento, founded in 1590. The unassuming exterior is in complete contrast to the intricate interior, covered with gilded carved wood and decorated with exquisite wooden statues. São Francisco da Penitência is an elaborate church – you have to see inside to believe it, with its rich gold leaf interior. The choir ceiling has the earliest trompe-l'oeil painting in the country, painted by Caetano da Costa Coelho in 1736.

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For a taste of Rio nightlife – or just great people watching – head to the Lapa neighbourhood in downtown (where you saw the Lapa Arches yesterday). As Rio's party district, it's home to samba bars and a huge street party every weekend. Try the national drink caipirinha, a cocktail of sugar, cachaça and lime.

OPTIONAL TOUR - ROCINHA FAVELA EXPERIENCE

Travel with a local guide to the top of Rocinha, the largest favela in Rio de Janeiro, and walk down through the community to see how it works day to day. You will stop at viewpoints looking out over the city, see street art through the lanes, visit local artists and businesses along the way and stop for a drink at a local shop. It is a direct and open look at a side of Rio that most visitors never see.

Meeting Point: Your hotel in Rio de Janeiro
How to get there: Return hotel transfers are included.
Includes: Return hotel pick up and drop off and a local guide.
Start Time: 9:00am, daily
End Time: Approximately 12:30pm (3.5 hours)

Please note: *Gratuities are not included. Please follow your guide's instructions about photography at all times, as this is a residential community.*

OPTIONAL TOUR - CARNIVAL EXPERIENCE

Go behind the scenes of Carnival at Samba City, in the workshop of Academicos do Grande Rio, the 2022 champion samba school. You will tour the sheds where the floats and costumes are built over the course of the year, spend time in the exhibition room learning how samba and the Carnival parades came to be, and then take part yourself, trying on official Carnival costumes for photographs, sharing a welcome caipirinha and taking a samba lesson with one of the school's dancers.

Meeting Point: Your hotel in Rio de Janeiro
How to get there: Please confirm transfer arrangements with your tour leader.
Includes: Guided tour of the Academicos do Grande Rio workshop, the samba and Carnival exhibition room, costume fitting and photographs, a welcome caipirinha and a samba class.
Start Time: 7:30pm
End Time: 11:00pm

Please note: *A minimum of 2 travellers is required and the maximum group size is 24.*

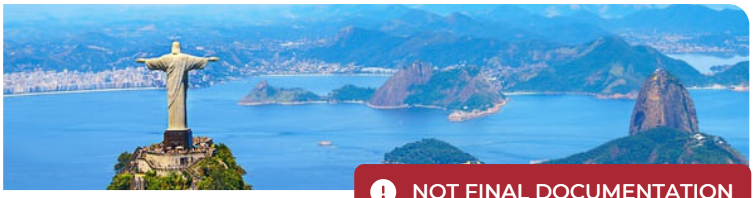
DAY 7

Destination	Rio de Janeiro ✈ Lima
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	4 ★ Aloft by Marriott Lima Miraflores, or similar

Today you'll be up early in the morning to fly to Lima, City of Kings.

Welcome to Peru! Upon arrival, you'll be transferred to your hotel. Your local guide will meet you for a welcome briefing and offer some tips for this leg of your adventure.

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While Peru's capital officially began life in 1535, Lima was in its prime during the Spanish colonial days and much of the city's attraction now lies in its well-preserved historical centre. You'll also find excellent museums – a given considering the history and culture of its surroundings – and interesting colonial architecture. One such museum, the Museo de la Nación, is the largest museum in Lima and an ideal place to begin exploring Peru's ancient history.

At night, the Magic Water Circuit show in the Parque de la Reserva is a tourist drawcard. Every one of the 13 fountains at the park is illuminated with different colours and synchronised to music.

Enjoy a free night to explore this vibrant city.

Special Information
Your travel time today will be approximately 9 hours.

On your departure from Rio de Janeiro you will say goodbye to your tour guide, and your group will be met by a local guide in Lima, who will meet and greet you, coordinate your activities in town and be reachable to assist you as needed.

Your included flight allows one checked bag up to 23kg (51lbs), and one 7kg (15 lbs) carry-on, with options to increase your luggage allowance at the airport if needed. Your flight will be unescorted, however your tour guide will assist you on either end to ensure that your journey is trouble free.

DAY 8

Destination	Lima
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	4 ★ Aloft by Marriott Lima Miraflores, or similar

Get ready to discover Lima today!

In the morning after breakfast, your local guide will meet you for a welcome briefing and offer some tips for this leg of your adventure, before enjoying a tour of the city.

On the way to the historic centre, we'll see the outside of the pre-Columbian site Huaca Pucllana, a magnificent ceremonial and archaeological centre built in the fourth century – considered a sacred village by the Incas.

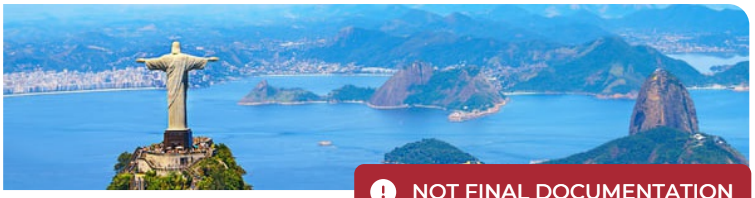
We'll continue on to the colonial side of the city where we'll pass by the Cathedral, the Viceroyalty of Peru, the Government Palace, City Hall, and other important monuments. We'll visit the Plaza Mayor (Main Square), the historical centre of Lima. Although most of the buildings of the original city were lost in the earthquake of 1746, the bronze fountain in the centre of the square dates back to 1651.

Later, we'll visit the Bodega Y Quadra Museum, in a well-preserved house of the Peruvian Republican period. Then we'll see the 16th-century Santo Domingo Convent, one of Peru's oldest churches. There may be a chance to climb the bell tower for stunning views of Lima.

Finally, we'll see the changing of the guards at Government Palace (subject to the Palace's program) before returning to the hotel.

You'll have the rest of the day free to explore on your own. Your local guide will be with you to assist in anything you may need.

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Feel free to head to the modern section of this great metropolis and visit the district of Miraflores with its shopping mall Larcomar, built on a spectacular cliff overlooking the Pacific Ocean and the traditional 'Parque del amor' (Love Park). Miraflores is home to the pyramid-shaped temple of Huaca Pucllana. If you have time, a leisurely stroll down the Miraflores Boardwalk will showcase the coastline views.

With its vibrant, varied flavours, Peruvian food will undoubtedly be a highlight of your trip and Lima is the country's gastronomic capital. Ceviche is Peru's most popular dish, and with the Pacific Ocean just west of the city, you'll find it everywhere – from cevicherias to street stalls to fine dining restaurants. You might like to end the day with the ubiquitous pisco sour, a popular cocktail made with the nation's favourite brandy.

Inspiring Highlights

- Plaza Mayor
- Bodega Y Quadra Museum
- Government Palace

OPTIONAL TOUR - DINNER IN HUACA

Located in the heart of the city, this spectacular pre-Inca structure is a 1,500-year-old pyramid built from seven staggered platforms. The complex is now home to a high-end restaurant, adjacent to the pyramid, overlooking the historic ruins of this fascinating archaeological complex. It's one of Lima's best restaurants, where classic techniques and contemporary style fuse with Peruvian flavours for a truly special culinary experience.

Meeting Point: Hotel
Includes: Dinner and transfers
Start Time: 7.00 pm
End Time: 10.00 pm

DAY 9

Destination	Lima ✈ Puerto Maldonado 🚌 Amazon Jungle
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Hotel	Explorers Inn Lodge - La Torre, or similar

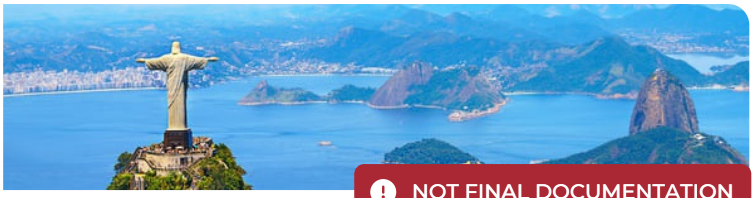
Today will be an early start, as you'll be taken to the airport to board your flight for the Peruvian jungle town of Puerto Maldonado – gateway to the Peruvian Amazon.

Upon arrival, the staff will welcome you and take you to the nearby office to pack your bag for the jungle stay (a small duffel bag will be provided). Your luggage will be stored in a secure place while you are exploring the jungle.

We will then travel to the port where we will board our motorboat for our journey along the warm, calm waters of the Tambopata River. Travel time is about 1 hour and 45 minutes to reach our lodge. A picnic lunch box will be provided to enjoy onboard.

This area is the least populated territory in Peru, with its lush tropical rainforest. Of course, it's more than a rainforest – it's a complex ecosystem, with a dazzling array of flora and fauna. You'll observe life in the jungle, its thrilling landscapes and the fascinating wildlife that call it home.

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When you arrive at the lodge you will be provided with useful information to enhance your stay. Accommodation at your lodge is simple but comfortable, designed to enjoy the ambience of the jungle. Rooms have private bathrooms (cold water). You will then have free time to settle in and perhaps take a short walk to watch the sunset.

After dinner, you'll search for caiman. We'll return to the river with flashlights in search of the red reflection of caiman eyes lurking along the riverbank. With any luck, we'll see some nocturnal animals as well. It's a magical experience to witness them in the wilderness.

Inspiring Highlights

- Amazon Jungle

Special Information
Your travel time today will be approximately 6 hours.

Your included flight allows one checked bag up to 23kg (51lbs), and one 7kg (15 lbs) carry-on, with options to increase your luggage allowance at the airport if needed. Your flight will be unescorted, however your tour guide will assist you on either end to ensure that your journey is trouble free.

For assistance with a packing list, please see our 'Packing Essentials' in the 'Your Tour Experience' section for this tour.

On your departure from Lima you will say goodbye to your tour guide, and your group will be met in Puerto Maldonado by a local guide, who will meet and greet you, coordinate your activities in the jungle and be reachable to assist you as needed.

The order and schedule of the activities during your stay may be modified according to weather and the wellbeing of the group.

When purchasing a single supplement please be aware that on rare occasions, this might not cover the jungle stay depending on passenger numbers and rooming configurations for your departure date.

DAY 10

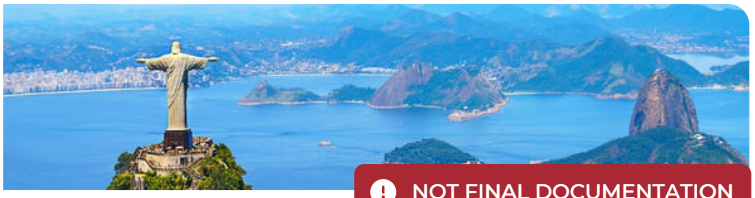
Destination	Amazon Jungle
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Hotel	Explorers Inn Lodge - La Torre, or similar

A day of adventure awaits! In order to have the best chance of observing fauna the day will start early.

Enjoy a delicious breakfast at the lodge before taking a 30 minute boat ride and 2km hike to "Tres Chimbadas Lake", a fascinating unique habitat in the Amazon basin. This small lake located inside the Infierno Community Reserve is home to many species, including the endangered Giant River Otters. You will explore the lake by catamaran as your guide helps you to seek out wildlife such as black caymans, hoatzins, horned screamers and other aquatic birds as well as lush vegetation surrounding the river banks. Return to the Lodge for lunch.

After a well-deserved break, your naturalist guide will take you to a 42 metre (137 ft)- high tower to get an overview of the Amazon Rainforest from above. This is the first tower made to measure the effects of climate change. The tower is equipped with a wide variety of devices to measure solar radiation and carbon flux emission in the Peruvian

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rainforest. From the tower we have a unique opportunity to see the flora and fauna at all the different forest levels. With luck you may spot flocks of canopy birds and macaws at close proximity. Return to the lodge for dinner.

After dinner, an excursion into the Amazon rainforest promises real adventure. Explore this thrilling jungle on one of the lodge's trails, home to nocturnal animals with intriguing behaviour patterns. Experience this hidden world in the dark and search for insects, amphibians, bats and nocturnal birds. If lucky, we'll see some nocturnal mammals.

Return to the lodge for the night where you will sleep to the sounds of the jungle.

Inspiring Highlights

- Amazon Jungle
- Tres Chimbadas Lake

DAY 11

Destination	Amazon Jungle Puerto Maldonado Cusco Sacred Valley
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	Tierra Viva Valle Sagrado, or similar

After breakfast, we'll take a ride back to Puerto Maldonado by motorised canoe. You'll pick up your belongings and transfer to the airport to board your flight to Cusco. Upon arrival you'll be met by your local leader and transferred to your hotel in the Sacred Valley.

The Sacred Valley was once the epicentre of the Inca Empire, running from the ancient capital of the empire, Cusco, to the breathtaking citadel of Machu Picchu. This lush green valley's agreeable climate and fertile plains provided an unusual abundance for the high Andes. Here the Incas sculpted the mountain flanks with vast contour terracing and irrigation channels.

Tonight you will have a free night to explore at your leisure.

Special Information
Your travel time today will be approximately 5.5 hours.

On your departure from the Amazon you will say goodbye to your tour guide, and your group will be met by a tour leader in Cusco, who will spend the next few days in Peru with you. Your flight will be unescorted, however your tour guide will assist you on either end to ensure that your journey is trouble free.

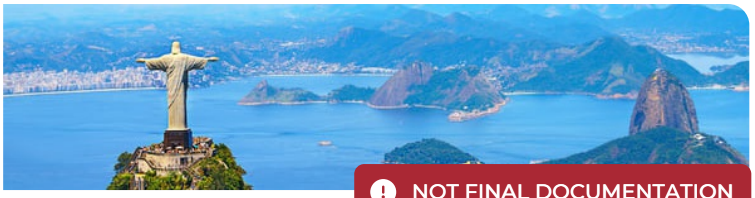
Your included flight allows one checked bag up to 23kg (51lbs), and one 7kg (15 lbs) carry-on, with options to increase your luggage allowance at the airport if needed. Your flight will be unescorted, however your tour guide will assist you on either end to ensure that your journey is trouble free.

DAY 12

Destination	Sacred Valley
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch
Hotel	Tierra Viva Valle Sagrado, or similar

In the morning we'll head to the Sacred Valley of the Incas.

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We'll visit a community in the valley to learn about daily life for the locals. If the visit coincides with market day, you'll have time to browse the stalls for hand-painted beads or warm ponchos – or a chance to practise the local language, Quechua. Lunch will be served at the community.

In the afternoon, we'll visit the town of Ollantaytambo and there is the option of visiting the ruins here.

Inspiring Highlights

- Sacred Valley Community Visit

OPTIONAL TOUR - OLLANTAYTAMBO ARCHAEOLOGICAL ENTRANCE FEE

We'll travel along the Urubamba River towards the town of Ollantaytambo, one of the few places where the Incas defeated the Spanish. It's a magnificent example of Inca urban planning. You'll visit the ruins of Ollantaytambo, an important Inca construction built during the Empire's heyday. It's an extraordinary place, with its wonderful stonework. You may also see an amazing rock formation said to represent the Inca god Wiracocha.

Meeting Point: Ollantaytambo entrance
Includes: Entrance fee only

DAY 13

Destination	Sacred Valley 🚌 Aguas Calientes 🚌 Machu Picchu 🚌 Aguas Calientes 🚌 Sacred Valley
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	Tierra Viva Valle Sagrado, or similar

One of the New Seven Wonders of the World, this is the jewel in South America's crown – today we'll visit the breathtaking archaeological site of Machu Picchu.

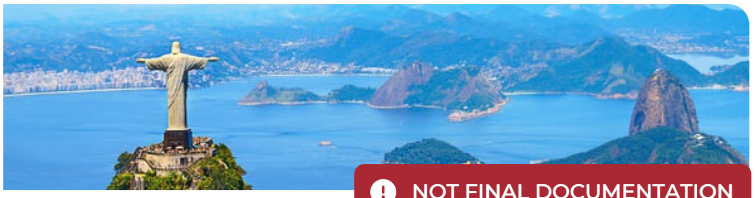
Early in the morning you'll be taken to the station to board the fabled tourist train towards Machu Picchu Pueblo (formerly Aguas Calientes). It's a modern little town close to the sanctuary of Machu Picchu.

The train ride to Machu Picchu is one of the most beautiful journeys you can experience in Peru. It's an almost two-hour journey that passes through the Sacred Valley of the Incas, then descends gradually along the edge of the Urubamba River, before finally reaching the cloud forest. The train reaches its last stop in Machu Picchu Pueblo (formerly Aguas Calientes), on the foothills of Machu Picchu. From here it's a short bus ride – about 30 minutes – up the steep, zigzagging road to the famed ancient site.

Upon arrival, we'll enter the archaeological zone of Machu Picchu and the tour guide will show you the most important sectors of this great Inca City.

Now the most recognisable icon of the Inca civilisation, Machu Picchu was long thought to be legendary. Then, in 1911, explorer Hiram Bingham stumbled upon its remains. At 2430 metres above sea level, Machu Picchu is in the middle of a tropical mountain forest, in an extraordinarily beautiful setting. It was probably the most amazing

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creation of the Inca Empire at the height of their reign. The stonework has to be seen up close to truly comprehend its intricate beauty. Giant walls, terraces and ramps seem as if they have been cut naturally in the continuous rock escarpments.

After the tour, we'll return to Machu Picchu Pueblo (formerly Aguas Calientes) by bus before taking the tourist train back to Ollantaytambo town, followed by a private transfer back to your hotel in Sacred Valley for a well deserved rest

Inspiring Highlights

- Machu Picchu Train
- Machu Picchu

Special Information
Your travel time today will be approximately 5 hours.

DAY 14

Destination	Sacred Valley Cusco
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	4 La Paccha Hotel - Cusco, or similar

After breakfast, we start the day driving back to Cusco. A UNESCO World Heritage Site and the oldest continuously inhabited city in the Americas, Cusco has a long and fascinating history, from the first Inca ruler through to the Spanish conquest and on to its life today as a major tourist destination.

On arrival, we take a guided walking tour to discover the sights of Cusco, vivid examples of the blend of Inca and Spanish cultures. We'll start with the Stone of Twelve Angles at the Inca Roca Palace on Hatun Rumiyoc Street, before visiting the most sacred Inca building, the Temple of Qorikancha, the Inca temple of the sun.

We'll then head to the heart of the city, the busy main square of Plaza de Armas, a great place to people watch. From there, the San Pedro Market makes for some great food and souvenir shopping, where you'll find local cheese and chocolate, herbal medicines and handicrafts.

As you wander the streets and side alleys, you'll see the perfect tapering Inca stonework that forms the foundations of many of Cusco's colonial and modern buildings.

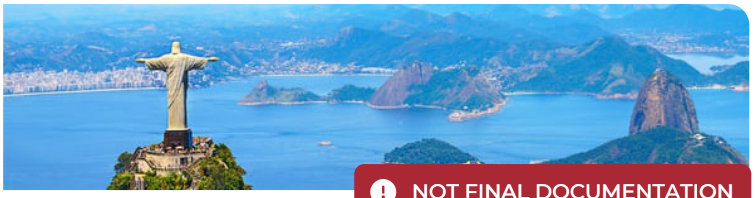
After the walking tour, you'll be able to check in to your hotel and enjoy a free afternoon and evening sampling the tastes and nightlife of Cusco.

Inspiring Highlights

- Temple of Qorikancha
- Plaza de Armas

Special Information
Your travel time today will be approximately 2 hours.

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OPTIONAL TOUR - CUSCO PLANETARIUM

Look to the night sky for a different view of Cusco. The planetarium sits in the quiet of the Llaullipata Ecological Reserve on the edge of the city, and the evening covers the southern sky, contemporary astronomy and the relationship the Inca had with the cosmos. There is a small museum on site and, weather permitting, time at the telescopes.

Meeting Point: Regocijo Square, Cusco
How to get there: Return transfers from Regocijo Square are included. Please make your own way to the square, which is a short walk from your hotel.
Includes: Return transfers from Regocijo Square, guiding, and stargazing through the telescopes subject to weather conditions.
Start Time: 5:00pm
End Time: 7:40pm

Please note: *Telescope viewing depends on cloud cover on the night. A minimum of 4 travellers is required and the maximum group size is 22.*

DAY 15

Destination	Cusco
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	4 ★ La Paccha Hotel - Cusco, or similar

You'll have a free day to see Cusco at your own pace today.

Perhaps a visit to the traditional, picturesque neighbourhood of San Blas is in order – you can reach it by taking a short but steep walk from the Plaza de Armas. Here you'll find art studios, artisan workshops and many of the best bars and restaurants. It's a great place to wander and soak in the atmosphere.

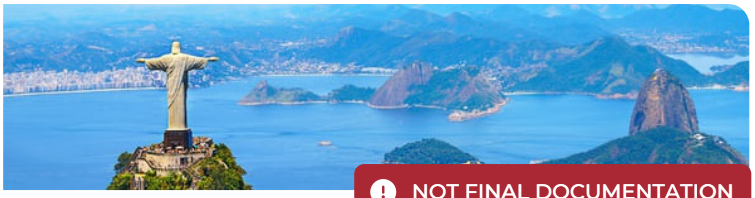
OPTIONAL TOUR - CUSCO COOKING CLASS

Spend an afternoon cooking Peruvian food in the Centre of Cusco. The class covers local produce and the dishes it goes into, starting with a tasting of local fruits, several styles of pisco and local snacks, then working through a starter, a main and a dessert, with two cocktails along the way. Vegetarian and vegan versions are available and other dietary requirements can be catered for with notice.

Meeting Point: The cooking school in central Cusco
How to get there: The cooking school is a short walk from your hotel. Your tour leader will provide directions.
Includes: A tasting of local fruits, pisco and snacks, a starter, a main course, a dessert and two cocktails.
Start Time: 1:00pm
End Time: 4:00pm

Please note: *This optional tour cannot be combined with the Rainbow Mountain Day Tour, as the two run on the same day. A guided visit to the local market may form part of the class depending on availability and group numbers on the day. Where this is not possible the activity will be adjusted or replaced.*

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OPTIONAL TOUR - RAINBOW MOUNTAIN DAY TOUR

Embark on a breathtaking journey from Cusco (3300m) to Palcoyo (4900m) starting with a very early morning pick-up from your hotel. We´ll drive for 1.5-hour to Cusipata Town for a brief breakfast and restroom break. Continuing for an additional 1:20 hrs driving, we reach the Palcoyo Community.

En route, witness picturesque villages, potato and corn farms, alpaca herds, and the stunning red river landscape. Upon reaching Palcoyo, embark on a 45-minute hike to the lookout point, offering breathtaking views of three rainbow mountains, the Red Valley, and the majestic Mt Ausangate, the highest peak in Cusco. A further 20-minute walk leads to the fascinating 'Bosque de Piedras' (Stone Forest), where you can explore for approximately 2 hours.

Heading back, stop at Combapata Bridge to visit the historic colonial Rumichaca Bridge, dating back to 1604. We´ll stop at Cusipata town for lunch (included) before the drive back to Cusco City, with an estimated arrival around 5:00 pm.

Please Note: Due to the altitude of this optional tour, a good level of fitness is required.
Minimum Altitude : 3400 metres
Maximum Altitude : 4900 metres
Hiking time : Between 2 to 3 hours approx.

Meeting Point: Hotel
Includes: Transfers, safety equipment, English speaking guide, breakfast & lunch
Start Time: 05:30am
End Time: 05:00pm

Note: This tour does not operate in the months of January & February due to the rainy season

DAY 16

Destination	Cusco 🚌 Puno
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	4 ⭐ Jose Antonio Puno Hotel, or similar

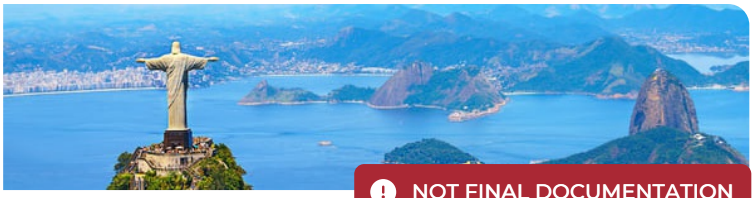
You will have an early start today and will be leaving the hotel at approximately 7:30am, we'll set off for Puno, a ten-hour bus journey. This is a gorgeous scenic journey. The first half is dominated by the magnificent Andean mountains towering over deep valleys, then you'll reach the gentler, rolling Andean Plains, where vicuñas and alpacas can be spotted.

Along the way, we'll visit charming landmarks with a rich history, like the Sistine Chapel of the Americas, or the Andahuaylillas Church, built during the 17th century, and the archaeological site of Raqchi (also known as Temple of Wiracocha). You'll get a beautiful view of the Chimboya glacier from the La Raya Pass. There will be a stop at the Pukara Lithic Museum, where you'll find archaeological gems like stone sculptures and impressive pottery among the artefacts.

Inspiring Highlights

- Andahuaylillas Church

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- Chimboya glacier View
- Pukara Lithic Museum

Special Information
Your travel time today will be approximately 10 hours.

Today, your guide will accompany you on your journey to Puno. Upon arrival, you'll meet your new local guide, who will be with you through Puno and Lake Titicaca.

DAY 17

Destination	Puno 🚌 Lake Titicaca 🚌 Puno
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	4 ⭐ Jose Antonio Puno Hotel, or similar

Another early start today as we set off at approximately 7:00am for the boat to explore Lake Titicaca, an ancient treasure trove of Andean culture that straddles the border between Peru and Bolivia. We'll spend the day touring by boat on this high altitude lake. There are numerous islands here whose inhabitants live with the same customs and traditions of their ancestors.

We'll spend time on the Uros Islands (floating islands). Centuries ago, the indigenous Uros tribe harvested totora reeds in the shallows of the lake, bundled them tightly and built floating island platforms with reed houses and canoes.

We'll then continue to Taquile Island, about an hour away. The Taquileños, Quechua-speaking locals who live here – about 2,200 of them – are known for their ancestral weaving skills (a UNESCO-protected art). Their fine handwoven handicrafts are incredibly high quality.

In the afternoon we'll return to Puno by boat.

Inspiring Highlights

- Lake Titicaca
- Uros Floating Islands
- Taquile Island

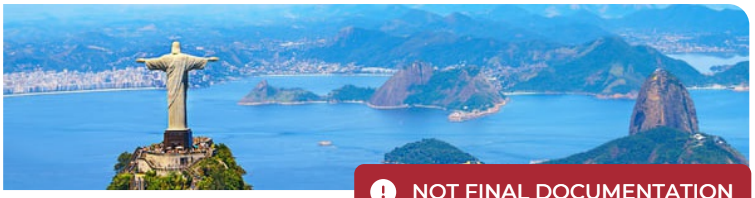
DAY 18

Destination	Puno ✈ Lima
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	4 ⭐ Aloft by Marriott Lima Miraflores, or similar

After breakfast today we'll head to the airport to board a flight to Lima.

Time permitting, on the way to the airport, we'll visit the pre-Incan cemetery of Sillustani, on the shores of Lake Umayo. You'll see the most important sectors of this archaeological site, for a deeper insight into Andean culture.

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Tombs at this burial ground were built above ground in tower-like structures called chullpas. The remains of the Qulla people's elite are here – they were conquered by the Inca in the 15th century. We'll also enjoy a wonderful panoramic view of the lake.

Upon arrival in Lima, you'll be met and transferred to your hotel, where you'll enjoy a free night.

Special Information
Your travel time today will be approximately 4.5 hours.

Your included flight allows one checked bag up to 23kg (51lbs), and one 7kg (15 lbs) carry-on, with options to increase your luggage allowance at the airport if needed.

DAY 19

Destination	Lima ✈ Guayaquil
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	4 ★ Grand Hotel Guayaquil, or similar

Early this morning you will be transferred to Lima airport for your flight to Guayaquil, your gateway to the Galapagos. On arrival you will be met at the airport and transferred to your hotel located in the heart of the city.

This afternoon, your local guide will take you on a walking tour of Guayaquil. You will visit Seminario Park, famously known as Iguana Park for its resident Green Iguanas. Next, explore The Integration Plaza at Guayaquil City Hall and Vulcano Forge, showcasing sculptures that unravel the Independent secret plan of the Patriots. Then, venture to the Malecon 2000 with its plazas, monuments, and gardens before delving into the historic Las Penias Neighborhood, marked by its ancient fort and wooden houses recounting tales of past pirate attacks.

Special Information

Your travel time today will be approximately 5 hours.

Your included flight allows one checked bag up to 15kg (33 lbs), and one 7kg (15 lbs) carry-on, with options to increase your luggage allowance at the airport if needed. Your flight will be unescorted, however your tour guide will assist you on either end to ensure that your journey is trouble free.

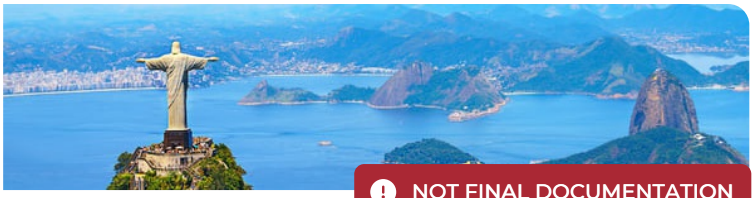
On your departure from Lima you will say goodbye to your tour guide, and your group will be met by a local guide in Guayaquil, who will meet and greet you, coordinate your activities in town and be reachable to assist you as needed. Your flight will be unescorted, however your tour guide will assist you on either end to ensure that your journey is trouble free.

The complimentary city tour of Guayaquil will be available if flights arrive before 3:00pm. Estimated time of the walking tour: 2 hours

DAY 20

Destination	Guayaquil ✈ Santa Cruz Island
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	Fernandina Hotel - Galapagos, or similar

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This morning you will be transferred to the airport for your flight to the Galapagos Islands (flight tickets and departure time will be advised locally on your arrival in Guayaquil).

Your guide will pick you up from the airport and continue on to visit the Highlands of the Island where you can observe the giant tortoise roaming in a natural habitat. Make the most of great picture opportunities with this endangered species, endemic to the Galapagos before continuing to your hotel in Puerto Ayora.

Later, head to the Charles Darwin Research Station, located in Puerto Ayora. The research station plays a crucial role in the conservation and preservation of the Galápagos Islands' delicate ecosystem. Here, you'll learn about ongoing research projects, breeding programs for endangered species, and the conservation efforts to protect the islands' biodiversity. One of the main highlights of the Charles Darwin Research Station is the Giant Tortoise Breeding Center. You'll have the opportunity to see these magnificent creatures up close and learn about the conservation efforts to protect and reintroduce them to their natural habitats.

In the afternoon you will arrive back at your hotel for an evening at leisure.

Inspiring Highlights

- Santa Cruz Island Highlands
- Charles Darwin Research Station
- Giant Tortoise Breeding Center

Special Information
Your travel time today will be approximately 5 hours.

Your included flight allows one checked bag up to 23kg (51lbs), and one 7kg (15 lbs) carry-on, with options to increase your luggage allowance at the airport if needed. Your flight will be unescorted, however your tour guide will assist you on either end to ensure that your journey is trouble free.

Your internal flight for this day is arranged by our local partner. Specific flight details will be provided by your Tour Leader upon arrival and cannot be provided in advance. Please note that these group flights cannot be upgraded, amended, or checked in online. Your group will be required to check in together. .

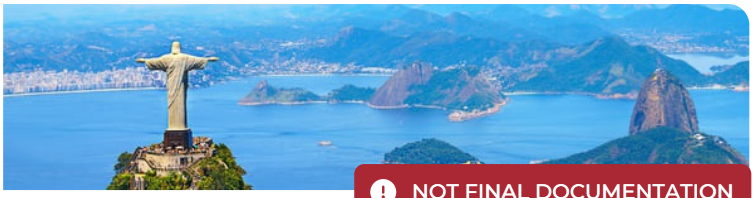
While you're in the Galapagos Islands, inter-island travel will be by speedboat. To ensure a smooth journey, please limit your luggage to one suitcase per person, as space on the boats is limited.

On your departure from Guayaquil you will say goodbye to your local guide, and your group will be met by a local guide in the Galapagos Island, who will meet and greet you, coordinate your activities in the islands and be reachable to assist you as needed.

Please note a US$20 per person transit card is payable on departure at Guayaquil Airport. Galapagos National Park entry fee of US$200 is payable on arrival on the islands. Both payments are made in USD cash.

It's important to note that, given the remote and isolated nature of the Galapagos, there are fewer options for accommodation, and it can be challenging to provide all creature comforts. Sometimes, there may be hot water outages, and occasional blackouts can occur. While it may be less comfortable than what you might experience on the mainland of South America, the opportunity to explore this extraordinary destination makes it well worth the experience.

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DAY 21

Destination	Santa Cruz Island 🚤 Outer Island Excursion 🚤 Santa Cruz Island
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch
Hotel	Fernandina Hotel - Galapagos, or similar

After breakfast, you will embark on a full day tour to one of the beautiful uninhabited islands of Santa Fe, South Plaza, North Seymour or Bartolomé (subject to scheduling). Your excursion will travel by speed boat - the trip takes approximately 2 hours each way.

Your expert naturalist guide will introduce you to the island's unique wildlife which may include endemic species such as Galapagos penguins, land iguanas, Darwin's finches, blue-footed Boobies and many more.

You will have the opportunity to snorkel in the crystal-clear waters, discover marine life and vibrant coral reefs.

You'll then return to Puerto Ayora by late afternoon to spend the evening relaxing.

Special Information
Your touring today may be shared with other non Inspiring Vacations guests.

DAY 22

Destination	Santa Cruz Island 🚤 San Cristobal Island
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	3 ⭐ Blue Marlin Hotel - Galapagos Islands, or similar

After breakfast, visit Tortuga Bay. You will take a guided walk (45 minutes each way) to take in the scenery and wildlife. Visitors can often encounter marine iguanas, Galápagos crabs, sea lions, and a variety of bird species such as pelicans and finches.

Once you reach Playa Brava, please be aware that swimming is not allowed here due to the presence of hazardous currents. For those wishing to swim, continue walking along the beach until you discover a trail leading through the mangrove forest. This path will take you to Playa Mansa, a sheltered bay where you can safely swim and relish the cool shade provided by the mangroves.

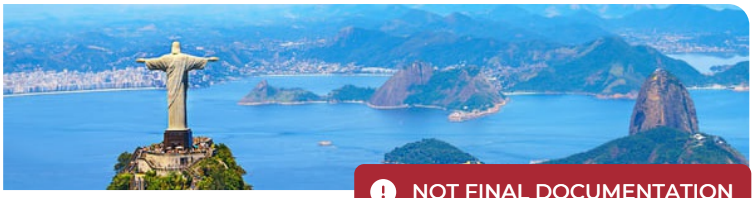
This afternoon, transfer to the pier and board a public speed-boat to San Cristobal Island (approximately 2.5 hours ride). Upon arrival, you will enjoy a walking tour in the beautiful Puerto Baquerizo to enjoy the local life.

Inspiring Highlights

- Tortuga Bay
- Playa Mansa

Special Information
Your travel time today will be approximately 2.5 hours on a public speed-boat service. Passengers are generally allowed one medium-sized piece of luggage and a small personal item (such as a day-pack), both of which must be manageable and easily storable on the boat.

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DAY 23

Destination	San Cristobal Island 🚢 Kicker Rock or Isla Lobos 🚢 San Cristobal Island
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch
Hotel	3 ⭐ Blue Marlin Hotel - Galapagos Islands, or similar

This morning after breakfast you will visit one of the most iconic sites in the Galapagos Islands: Kicker Rock or “Leon Dormido”, an amazing rock formation just 90 minutes from San Cristobal Island. This incredible landmark is a remnant of a vertical tuff cone formation with an altitude of 500 feet from the Pacific Ocean, it is considered as one of the best snorkelling sites in the Archipelago.

Erosion has given the formation its characteristic shape of a shoe (hence the name Kicker Rock) and others see a sleeping lion from above, the reason why in Spanish it is called “Leon Dormido”.

Snorkelling in the vicinity of the rock is truly an unforgettable experience! You will be able to spot marine iguanas, sea turtles, rays, Galapagos sharks, schools of colourful fish and, with some luck, hammerhead sharks. Also in the crevasses of the rock, you can encounter blue-footed boobies, masked-boobies and frigate birds.

Return to San Cristobal and your hotel for a well-deserved short resting time. In the afternoon, visit La Loberia beach, a scenic beach filled with large colonies of curious sea-lions, marine iguanas, frigate birds and more.

Spend the evening relaxing after a packed day.

Inspiring Highlights

- Kicker Rock or Isla Lobos

Special Information
Your travel time today will be approximately 3 hours.

Your touring today may be shared with other non Inspiring Vacations guests.

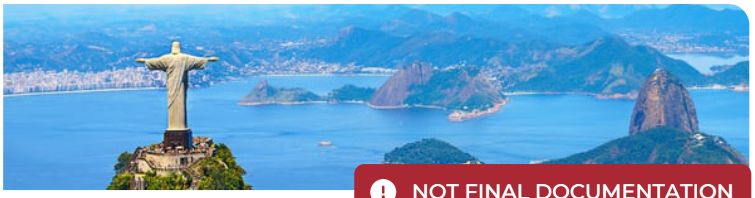
Often there can be instances where visits to Kicker Rock will be restricted. For groups not able to visit Kicker Rock, a visit to Isla Lobos will be provided as an alternative. Isla Lobos is named after the numerous sea lions (lobos marinos in Spanish) that inhabit the island. You'll also have opportunities to observe a variety of bird species, including blue-footed boobies, frigatebirds, and brown pelicans. Once you arrive at Isla Lobos, your naturalist guide will lead you on guided walks through the island's unique vegetation and provide opportunities for close encounters with the wildlife. You will have time to do snorkelling with unique species and then sail to an isolated beach, to relax on its sand, or swim or do some more snorkelling. We guarantee that this experience is an incredible alternative to Kicker Rock.

DAY 24

Destination	San Cristobal Island ✈ Quito
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	4 ⭐ Le Parc Hotel - Quito, or similar

This morning visit to the Interpretation Centre, which takes you through the history and settlement of the islands. Visitors can enjoy expositions on natural history, human history and conservation. The natural history explains the different natural facts, such as the volcanic origin of the islands, the distance between the mainland, its currents, the

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special climate, the arrival of different species, etc. The exposition room of Human History gives a chronological overview of the discovery and colonisation of the Galapagos.

The second section describes the reality of today's Galapagos: the problems and the struggle of several institutions and individuals to conserve Galapagos. The Center also has an outdoor theatre and a cinema.

At the appropriate time you will be picked up and transferred to the airport in time to board your flight to the capital of Ecuador, Quito. Upon arrival, your guide will welcome you and drive to your cosy centrally located hotel.

The rest of the afternoon is free for you to explore the surroundings.

Inspiring Highlights

- Interpretation Centre

Special Information
Your travel time today will be approximately 5 hours.

Your included flight allows one checked bag up to 23kg (51lbs), and one 7kg (15 lbs) carry-on, with options to increase your luggage allowance at the airport if needed. Your flight will be unescorted, however your tour guide will assist you on either end to ensure that your journey is trouble free.

Your internal flight for this day is arranged by our local partner. Specific flight details will be provided by your Tour Leader upon arrival and cannot be provided in advance. Please note that these group flights cannot be upgraded, amended, or checked in online. Your group will be required to check in together.

On your departure from the Galapagos Island you will say goodbye to your local guide, and your group will be met by a local guide in Quito, who will meet and greet you, coordinate your activities in the islands and be reachable to assist you as needed.

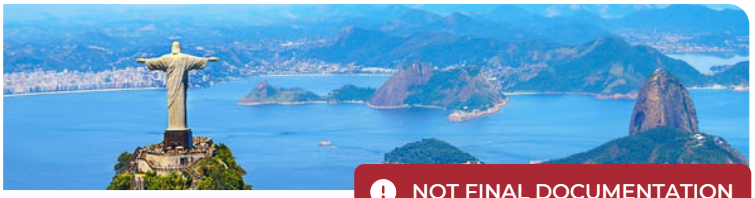
DAY 25

Destination	Quito
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	4 ★ Le Parc Hotel - Quito, or similar

Today you are at leisure to enjoy the quaint city at your own pace. The Ecuadorian capital is constructed on the foundations of an ancient Incan city and is known for its well-preserved colonial centre, rich with 16th- and 17th-century churches and other structures blending European, Moorish and indigenous styles.

Alternatively, you may wish to join an optional full day tour of this fascinating city.

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NOT FINAL DOCUMENTATION

OPTIONAL TOUR - QUITO & MIDDLE OF THE WORLD TOUR

Discover the colonial heart of Quito and stand with a foot in each hemisphere on this full-day tour. Begin in the Old Town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, with a visit to the soaring Basílica del Voto Nacional before strolling through Plaza Grande. Your guide will share the story of the Jesuits in Quito as you pass the ornate façade of La Compañía de Jesús, then continue to San Francisco Square. Drive up to El Panecillo, where the Virgin of Quito watches over sweeping views of the city.

After a lunch stop, head 25 kilometres north to the equator. Explore the Intiñan Museum on a 45-minute guided visit, where you can test the curious effects of latitude 0°, and see a glimpse of Ecuador's Indigenous heritage. Gaze into the Pululahua crater, one of the few inhabited volcanic calderas in the world, before finishing at the Mitad del Mundo monument.

Meeting point: Hotel
Start time: Approximately 8:00am (exact pick-up time between 7:20am and 7:40am, confirmed locally)
Duration: Approximately 9 hours (return to hotel around 6:00pm)
Includes: Guide, hotel pick-up and drop-off, entrance to the Intiñan Museum and the Mitad del Mundo site
Not included: Lunch (allow approximately US$10 to US$15 per person)

Please note: La Compañía de Jesús is viewed from outside only. The lunch stop is in downtown Quito or near the Middle of the World, depending on the group's pace.

DAY 26

Destination	Quito
Meals included	Breakfast
Accommodation	N/A

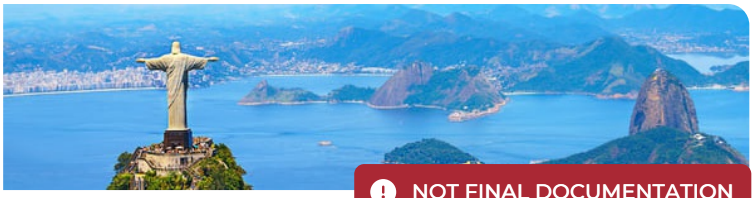
Your tour comes to an end today after breakfast. At the appropriate time, make your own way to the airport.

Thank you for travelling with Inspiring Vacations. We hope you had a memorable experience.

Special Information

Airport transfers are not included. Our transfer portal offers the option to book your airport transfers for an easier arrival experience (additional charges apply). Access to this portal will be available through your Traveller Hub once your booking is confirmed.

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NOT FINAL DOCUMENTATION

Inclusions

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Small group tour, no more than 20 people
- Guided tours of all major cities including Buenos Aires, Rio de Janeiro and Lima
- Ride the iconic train from Ollantaytambo to the foothills of Machu Picchu
- Stay in a 4-star eco lodge in the heart of the Amazon jungle
- Explore Santa Cruz, San Cristobel and other outer uninhabited islands of the Galapagos
- 25 nights in 3 and 4-star accommodation
- Breakfast daily, 6 lunches, 2 dinners
- Fully escorted by an English-speaking guide (excluding on internal flights)
- All internal flights, coach, rail and boat transportation
- Incredible sightseeing including entry fees as per itinerary

SIGHTSEEING HIGHLIGHTS

- Buenos Aires - Guided tour
- Iguazu Falls - Brazilian & Argentinian side of the falls
- Rio de Janeiro - City tour
- Rio de Janeiro - Christ the Redeemer
- Lima - City tour
- Amazon Jungle - 2 nights in a Eco Lodge
- Amazon Jungle - Night time wilderness tour
- Amazon Jungle - Tres Chimbadas Lake tour
- Cusco - City tour
- Sacred Valley - Community visit
- Machu Picchu - Scenic train ride
- Machu Picchu - Guided tour
- Lake Titicaca - Uros & Taquile Islands tour
- Galapagos Islands - Bartolome Island and Kicker Rock snorkelling experience
- Galapagos Islands - Puerto Baquerizo tour
- Galapagos Islands - Interpretation Centre
- Galapagos Island - Tortuga Bay guided walk
- Quito - Optional guided tour of Quito

INSPIRING FEATURES

Inspiring Sights

- Be amazed by the Inca ruins of Machu Picchu
- Seek out the unique wildlife of the Amazon & Galapagos Islands

Inspiring Stays

- Stay at an award winning Eco-lodge in the Amazon Jungle

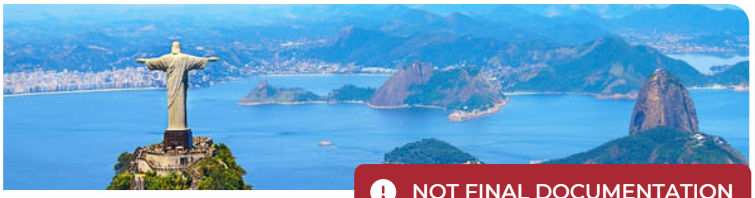
ADD-ONS, UPGRADES AND ROOM CONFIGURATION

Optional tours

To enhance your journey, we are offering guests a choice of the following optional activities (prices are per person):

- The Gran Aventura (Day 3) - $233 per person
- Iguazu Falls Helicopter Flight (Day 4) - $409 per person
- Dinner at Rio Scenarium (Day 5) - $381 per person
- Rocinha Favela Experience (Day 6) - $115 per person
- Carnival Experience (Day 6) - $318 per person
- Dinner in Huaca (Day 8) - $170 per person
- Ollantaytambo Archaeological Entrance Fee (Day 12) - $53 per person
- Cusco Planetarium (Day 14) - $41 per person
- Cusco Cooking Class (Day 15) - $89 per person
- Rainbow Mountain Day Tour (Day 15) - $299 per person

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- Quito & Middle of the World Tour (Day 25) - $153 per person

Optional tours can be selected once you have finalised your tour purchase and paid your deposit. When completing your Passenger Booking Form, you will be asked if you would like to add Optional Tours, where any applicable cost will be added to your final balance. If you choose not to select them at this time, you can choose to add them later by logging in to your Account online.

Please note that you must select your Optional Tours no later than 70 days before departure, after which you will be required to purchase them on tour. Please keep in mind that anything purchased on-tour is subject to availability and prices may vary as you will be paying in local currency. We appreciate your understanding.

Please note: All add-ons, including upgrades, pre/post accommodation, and optional tours, are subject to availability until confirmed by our operators. We recommend waiting for final confirmation of all itinerary components before making irreversible bookings like flights.

Pre/post accommodation
You can enhance your holiday by arriving or departing before or after the tour. On this tour you can choose from the following options:

Pre Tour Accommodation

- $211.00 per room, per night for double and twin share
- $211.00 per room, per night for solo travellers

Post Tour Accommodation

- $161.00 per room, per night for double and twin share
- $161.00 per room, per night for solo travellers

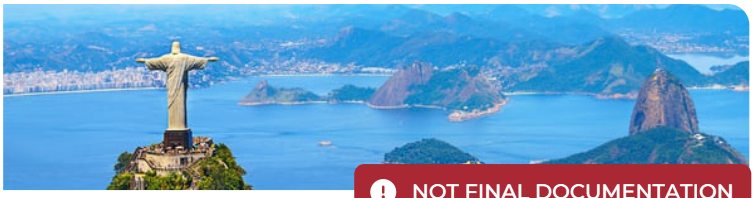
Please select the number of extra nights required in the 'Additional Nights Accommodation' field when making your purchase. The additional cost for these arrangements will be added to your final payment invoice and are subject to availability.

Upgrades
Not available

Airport Transfers
Some of our packages will include airport transfers in either one or both directions when arriving or departing from your destination. To know if transfers are included please view the ‘inclusions’ section of your selected package. If airport transfers are stated, transfers will be included as advised.

If transfers are not included, we also offer the option to book your airport transfers using our online portal. Access to this portal is available through your Traveller Hub once your booking is confirmed. Transfers are readily available and do not need to be booked until your final hotel list has been confirmed. Once you have made a transfer booking, please refer to your confirmation email for all transfer details including a local contact number for the transfer company.

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If you book pre and/or post-tour accommodation on your arrangement, and the tour includes transfers, note that these will be forfeited. The transfers are only provided in line with the tour dates and pre and/or post-tour accommodation purchased through Inspiring Vacations when available.

Bedding Configuration
Bedding configurations (double or twin) are requests only. All efforts will be made to meet your preferences, but we can not guarantee your request will be available at all properties.

Single travellers
When booking this tour, solo travellers will be presented with three options:

1 - Single Supplement
By paying an additional **$2,500.00** per person, in addition to the twin-share price, you guarantee the privacy of your room throughout the entire tour.

Please note when choosing Single Supplement for this tour, your room will generally consist of a double or semi-double bed. Occasionally there may be a hotel that will provide a single bedded room for single travellers.

2- Shared Room with a known friend
If travelling together with a friend, you can opt to share your room with him/her and avoid paying a single supplement.

You and your friend can create a unique booking each. Creating a unique booking, gives each of you the flexibility of making different travel arrangements (such as adding extra accommodation, flights, etc), making separate payments and having individual access to our Traveller Hub

During the purchase path, you will need to provide your friend's booking ID (if known) or at a minimum, your friend's full name.

3- Shared Room with a fellow traveller
In this tour you can opt to share a room with a fellow traveller of the same gender – as specified in your passport - and avoid paying a single supplement.

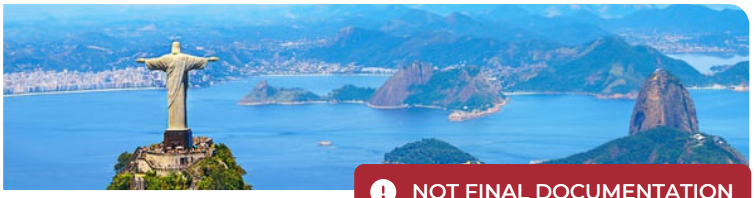
If you believe you may prevent your travelling companion from enjoying a peaceful night's rest, please refrain from selecting this option.

You will meet your rooming companion at the beginning of your tour.

Should you wish to change from a shared room to a solo room, this would be at the cost of the traveller who has requested to change the room type. Changes to room configuration during the trip must be organised by travellers directly with the hotel, subject to availability and additional charges.

This option is not available on additional accommodation booked before or after

Triple Share
Not available



Child Policy

Children must be 5 years old or above and share a room with parents at all times. Children are charged the same price as adults.

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Fine Print

BOOKING & PAYMENT TERMS

Payment Information
Secure your trip with a $99.00 deposit per person.

Once we receive your deposit, we will send you an invoice with your remaining balance and payment options.

Instalment Schedule:

1. At the time of booking pay a $99.00 deposit per person.
2. Pay a 1st installment of $3,224.00 per person within 7 days.
3. Pay a 2nd installment of $5,803.00 per person within 60 days.
4. You will then be invoiced for final payment 120 days prior to departure.

Cooling Off Period
A refund will be available within the 7-day cooling-off period unless otherwise restricted by the purchased product.

Where 'last minute' bookings are available within 71 days of departure, the cooling-off period does not apply and bookings are immediately non-refundable.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS
Please review our terms and conditions here:
https://www.inspiringvacations.com/au/page/terms-and-conditions

PRE-TOUR ESSENTIALS

Tour Suitability

- It's important to note that, given the remote and isolated nature of the Galapagos, there are fewer options for accommodation, and it can be challenging to provide all creature comforts. Sometimes, there may be hot water outages, and occasional blackouts can occur. While it may be less comfortable than what you might experience on the mainland of South America, the opportunity to explore this extraordinary destination makes it well worth the experience.
- Discovering the vast and diverse regions of South America requires multiple flights. Though some flights may involve early departures and potential delays or schedule changes, we have meticulously crafted this itinerary to ensure you experience the very best of what South America has to offer. When there are multiple flight options a day, we often choose the earlier option to ensure that if there are any cancellations or schedule changes then we can still get to our destination in time.
- This tour is a combination of several smaller journeys. You may join a group where some travellers have already been together prior to your arrival, or some of your fellow passengers may be travelling onwards when your tour comes to a finish. You may have some passengers who will not continue onward to Galapagos from Peru, and some new passengers may join you in Ecuador. If you'd like more information on alternative tour options or extensions, please feel free to contact us.
- During this tour we will have multiple dedicated tour leaders across the different destinations. This is to ensure we have a local expert in each location, and also due to guide licence requirements in certain destinations. Each dedicated tour leader will communicate with each other and the group so there will be a

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seamless transition.

- As we travel to high-altitude regions, please note that altitude sickness can impact anyone, no matter their age, gender, or fitness. It's important that you discuss this itinerary and your travel plans with your doctor beforehand. While on tour, safety is paramount and it's important that you discuss any altitude sickness symptoms with your local guide, so that appropriate medical attention can be provided. Follow this link for more helpful information on altitude sickness.
- This tour takes you through diverse regions, including the coast, mountains, and jungle. Due to the variety of climates you'll encounter, it's essential to pack a versatile wardrobe suitable for any time of year.
- This tour includes travel by speedboat between the different Galapagos Islands. These boat rides can cause seasickness, but it is treatable with medication. From June to August, the waters around the Galapagos tend to be rougher, leading to longer travel times. Please consult a health professional to determine if this medication is suitable for you.

Itinerary Changes
Please note that as part of our commitment to constantly improving our passenger experience, there may be itinerary changes between the time of booking and when you travel. These changes are always made with your experience in mind and will be clearly communicated in advance if they affect your booking.

Accommodation
The accommodation listed is subject to change. Any changes will be of an equal or higher standard. Please refer to your final documentation which will be provided approximately 14-30 days before departure for your confirmed hotel list.

Machu Picchu Entrance Tickets
Tickets to Machu Picchu are limited and can sell out quickly. To avoid any issues, it is essential that we receive your full passport details at least 90 days before departure. Please ensure you have added your passport details to your booking via the Traveller Hub. Failure to do so may result in missing out on Machu Picchu or potentially facing extra costs if alternate arrangements are necessary.

Visas & Entry Requirements
Many countries require a visa and obtaining the correct visa for your tour and any countries you may transit through is your responsibility. We recommend you check your visa requirements as soon as you have booked your tour. This will ensure you have time to prepare your documents and for your visa application to be processed. You can check the visa entry requirements for your nationality via our page here:

https://inspiringvacations-8357211.hs-sites.com/visa-information

You'll need a valid passport to travel internationally and most countries require your passport to have a minimum of 6 months validity, so remember to check the expiry date.

We need your passport information to get everything ready for your tour so the information on your booking must match your passport exactly. Please take care to provide the correct details. We recommend carrying a copy of the photo page of your passport while travelling and leaving a copy at home with family or friends.

Travel Insurance
Travel insurance is strongly recommended on all our tours. We require that at a minimum

you are covered for medical expenses including emergency repatriation. It is also important to consider forced pre-tour cancellations and how your chosen insurance policy may cover such circumstances, so please keep this in mind when choosing your provider.

We strongly recommend all travellers have a policy that also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage or personal effects. For international tours, you will be asked by your tour leader for your travel insurance details if they were not already added to your Traveller Hub account pre-departure.

If you have credit card insurance your Inspiring Vacations tour leader or local guide may require details of the participating insurer/underwriter, the level of coverage, policy number, and emergency contact number rather than the bank's name and your credit card details. Please contact your bank for these details before arriving in-country.

Before you depart, you will be asked to submit your Travel Insurance details through the booking holder's Traveller Hub account through the Inspiring Vacations website. This is to ensure that we have this information readily available should we ever need it.

Health & Wellness
All travellers need to be in good physical health to participate fully on this tour. Our group tours are designed to immerse you in incredible sights and activities, often involving walking tours and self-exploration. To ensure you can fully embrace every moment, we recommend a moderate level of fitness for all of our tours.

When selecting your tour please make sure you have read through the itinerary carefully and assess your ability to manage and enjoy our style of travel. Please note that in the assessment of our Inspiring Vacations Tour Leader or local representative a traveller is unable to complete the itinerary without undue risk to themselves and/or the rest of the group, we reserve the right to exclude them from all or part of a tour without refund.

You should consult your doctor for up-to-date medical travel information or for any necessary vaccinations before departure. We recommend that you carry a first aid kit as well as any personal medical requirements in their original packaging as they may not easily be obtained while travelling. If you are carrying medication, ensure you check your government's foreign travel advice for any local restrictions or requirements. For the safety and wellbeing of yourself and others, if you are unwell before travelling, please stay at home and contact us to make alternative arrangements and we would be more than happy to assist you.

Important Information for Customers with Mobility Limitations
We want to ensure everyone has a fantastic and inclusive experience on our tours. If you require the use of a mobility aid, such as a cane, walker, or wheelchair, **please disclose this information at the time of booking**.

To ensure a smooth and enjoyable experience for the entire group, our tours are designed with a specific itinerary in mind. This may involve moderate walking, uneven terrain, or stairs. While some itinerary adjustments may not be possible, we'll do our best to find alternative solutions within the planned activities whenever possible.

Open communication helps us ensure your tour is a perfect fit and it allows your local guide or tour leader to assist you where possible.

Information for CPAP Users

If you use a CPAP machine, please **let us know at the time of booking**. Some portions of our itinerary, like overnight cruises or camping tours, may have limited access to power outlets. In such cases, we recommend travelling with portable battery packs.

Certain activities, like overnight journeys on board smaller vessels, may not be suitable for CPAP use due to space limitations or noise concerns. We can discuss these potential limitations upfront and help you make informed decisions about your tour.

Please ensure that you check the voltage used throughout the countries you are travelling to and if it will be compatible with your machines. For example, Japan runs on 100 volts vs Australia at 220-240 volts, meaning a voltage converter might be required.

Documentation
Tour documentation is typically emailed to the lead passenger or your travel agent between 14-30 days before your scheduled departure. This will include your final hotel list.

Official Travel Advice
To ensure a smooth and enjoyable journey, we recommend referring to the official travel advisory website of your home country for the latest updates on your chosen destination. These websites provide valuable information on:

- **Safety and Security:** Current risks and precautions for the country you'll be visiting.
- **Visa Requirements:** Ensure you have all the necessary documentation for entry.
- **Entry and Exit:** Up-to-date border regulations and health requirements.

Here are some helpful links to get you started:

- **Australia:** https://www.smartraveller.gov.au/destinations
- **New Zealand:** https://www.safetravel.govt.nz/
- **America:** https://travel.state.gov/
- **Canada:** https://travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories
- **India:** https://www.mea.gov.in/travel-advisories.htm

In the unlikely event of a situation that could potentially disrupt your tour, we want to assure you of the following:

- **Local Expertise:** We maintain regular communication with our trusted travel partners in your destination.
- **Constant Monitoring:** We continuously monitor official travel advisories from relevant government websites.
- **Flexibility and Safety:** Should it become necessary, we will make appropriate adjustments to your itinerary to prioritise your health and safety.

By staying informed and working together, we can ensure a fantastic travel experience for you. We will post our own travel updates to our website here.

Connect with fellow travellers on Facebook
During your booking journey, you might have received an email inviting you to join a special Facebook group dedicated to your chosen destination. These vibrant online communities are exclusively for Inspiring Vacations travellers headed to the same

incredible place. Joining this group unlocks a wealth of information and connections. Swap travel tips, share packing insights, or even see if anyone's interested in travelling together.

We also regularly host insightful webinars featuring travel experts who share their tips and tricks for navigating your destination and maximising your itinerary. Don't miss out on this amazing opportunity to connect, learn, and get even more excited about your upcoming tour!

ARRIVAL AND ORIENTATION

Starting Point
Your starting hotel may differ from the original itinerary. Please refer to your final documentation which will be provided approximately 14-30 days before departure for your confirmed hotel list. If you need to book pre-tour accommodation independently, we suggest you do this only once you have received your final hotel list for your tour. If you would like to book something sooner, we recommend that you book using a flexible rate that can be cancelled through your chosen third-party provider without penalty.

Travellers will arrive at various times throughout the day depending on flights booked. If arriving before standard check-in time, which is generally 3pm, you are welcome to leave your luggage at hotel reception and explore your surroundings until check-in becomes available as there are no scheduled activities on day 1 of the itinerary. The hotel may grant early check-in, however this is strictly subject to availability and at the hotel's discretion.

Note: if you need to apply for a tourist visa before departure, we recommend using the details of the suggested hotel on the tour itinerary if you wish to fulfil this before the release of your final tour documentation. Please refer to our visa section for more information on whether or not a visa is required for your destination.

Arrival Details
Airport transfers are **not included** as part of your package. However, we trust that your journey from the airport to the hotel will be comfortable and hassle-free.

As an added service, we do offer airport transfers at an additional cost which can be booked via your Traveller Hub. We recommend you wait until you receive your final documentation to book transfers as your start and end hotels will only be confirmed at this point. Please note that if you are choosing to book an independent airport transfer service, your Inspiring Vacations tour leader cannot be held responsible for any unforeseen circumstances that may arise, nor can they resolve any concerns that you may have with your transfer service.

To make your way to your hotel from the airport, there are various connections by express train or limousine bus. The airport information desks can provide helpful advice, too.

If you're having any problems finding the hotel, please contact the hotel directly. Our ground operator is also available in case of emergencies. Please refer to the emergency contact details listed on your final documentation.

Optional Airport Transfers - Transfer Portal
Depending on the package purchased, you may have the option to add airport transfers to your booking and you can do so through your Traveller Hub account. We partner with an online marketplace where travellers can compare and select the transfer of their choice.

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Inspiring Vacations acts as an agent on behalf of our transfer service partner and any service is delivered by the provider. Inspiring Vacations cannot be held liable for any loss resulting from the transfer service provided. It is the customer's responsibility to ensure any transfer booked meets the requirements of any other travel arrangements. Likewise, your tour leader or any of our on-ground representatives cannot be held responsible for the service of your transfer nor are they in a position to assist with amending your reservation. Any transfer booking is separate from any other booking with Inspiring Vacations, regardless of whether purchased with regards to the same travel journey.

When you make your transfer service booking, you will receive a confirmation email and this will include your meeting instructions, as well as direct contact details. Please ensure you print and bring this with you as you will need to ensure you can make direct contact with your transfer service provider.

Welcome Meeting Instructions
You are welcome to arrive at any time on Day 1 of your tour and the day is at your leisure. You will meet at the lobby the following morning (on the day that sightseeing commences) at approximately 9.00am local time for a welcome meeting and a briefing on the tour ahead. Please ensure that you are on time.

In Case of Emergency
Although we strive to deliver exceptional holiday experiences, unforeseen circumstances can occasionally arise during travel. If any issues arise during your tour, it's essential to promptly communicate them to your tour leader or local representative. This ensures they can take immediate action to address the problem and mitigate any negative impact on the remainder of your journey.

We understand that there may be instances where your tour leader or local representative is unable to resolve a situation to your satisfaction. In such cases, we encourage you to request that the tour leader or local representative escalate the matter to their direct manager for further assistance.

You also have the option to share details in your online feedback after the tour. However, please keep in mind that it's challenging for us to offer practical assistance once the tour is completed. Therefore, notifying us while still travelling allows us the chance to address the issue in real-time and provide a timely resolution.

For general contact details please visit the Contact Us page on our website.

When your final tour documentation is released, this will include an emergency contact for our local travel partner while you are on tour. If this is not included in your documentation, you will receive this on arrival during your welcome meeting.

YOUR TOUR EXPERIENCE

Pace
This tour category is 3 out of 5

Balanced exploration with walking tours: Our most popular style, this tour offers a good mix of planned activities and free time. Expect moderate daily walking tours, so pack comfortable shoes.

As a general requirement across all of our tours, you may be required to walk up and down stairs, get on and off transportation, handle your own luggage, and participate in all

scheduled sightseeing that may be conducted on uneven ground and terrain. Any physical ailments you may have must be disclosed at the time of booking to determine your suitability and where required, supporting documentation may be requested to ensure that we are comfortable that you will enjoy your tour.

Group Size
Minimum: 4 people, Maximum: 20 people

Escorted Style
This tour is fully escorted by multiple dedicated tour leaders who will accompany you throughout the tour. You will be met by a new tour leader in each country and any internal flights included will be unescorted. Your tour leaders will coordinate with each other to ensure a seamless transition.

Tour Type
Our expertly crafted **Small Group Tours** take you to iconic landmarks and hidden treasures, ensuring a rich blend of must-see sights. Unwind in premium accommodations after each day filled with sightseeing alongside your dedicated tour leader, leaving you free to explore at your own pace during designated free time. Benefit from smaller group sizes, creating a truly unforgettable travel experience.

Exclusions

- International airfares
- Airport transfers
- Galapagos Control Card Fee USD20.00 per person to be paid locally at Guayaquil airport
- Galapagos National Park Fee USD200.00 per person to be paid in cash upon arrival in Galapagos
- Visas
- Travel insurance
- Optional activities
- Tipping
- Personal expenses
- Anything not mentioned in the itinerary

Optional Tours
To secure your spot and enjoy the best rates, pre-booking these tours in advance is highly recommended. While some tours require a minimum number of participants to operate, you'll be fully refunded if the tour is cancelled at your destination for this reason. Our optional tours are typically led by your tour leader or local guide. Please note that transportation to and from the optional tours is generally not included, but your tour leader will be happy to assist you with navigating public transportation options like trains or taxis to reach the starting point.

Travelling in a group
Travelling in a group means you will experience both the pleasures and perhaps at times, some of the frustrations of travelling with people you don't know. The good news is you all have at least one thing in common: a love of travel and exploration. Your fellow travellers will probably come from different parts of the world, and fall into different age groups. We ask you to be understanding of the various needs and preferences of your group—patience with your fellow travellers is sometimes required for the overall benefit of the group.

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We kindly ask that you are requested to be at a place at a certain time that you respect this request from your tour leader or local guide. Due to privacy reasons, we are unable to provide you with contact details and any personal information about your fellow travellers booked on your tour before departure.

Community Guidelines
Inspiring Vacations does not tolerate any kind of violence, harassment (whether physical, verbal or sexual), or disrespect toward fellow travellers, our teams (Inspiring Vacations Tour Leaders and local expert guides) or local communities.

Romantic relationships between travellers and the Inspiring Vacations Tour Leader or local representative are not permitted while on tour.

Any behaviour that prevents your Inspiring Vacations Tour Leader from continuing the itinerary as planned, breaks local laws or opposes any of these guidelines, may result in Inspiring Vacations removing you from the tour.

If something concerns you during your travels, please speak to your Inspiring Vacations Tour Leader immediately. Alternatively, when you are on-tour and require immediate support you can contact our Customer Support team and select the “On-Tour” option when listening to the options.

Inspiring Vacations Tour Leader vs. Local Guide
While both tour leaders and local guides enrich your travel experience, their roles differ. Tour leaders, who often accompany you for the entire tour, handle logistics, ensure smooth sailing of the itinerary, and act as your point of contact for any concerns. They might provide general information about destinations, but in-depth historical or cultural knowledge often comes from local guides. Local guides, frequently native to the area, lead tours at specific sites or attractions, offering a deeper understanding of the local history, art, or way of life.

Coach Transportation
The size of your coach will comfortably accommodate your group. There's usually room for some extra seats, ensuring a relaxing journey. Your luggage will be safely stored either underneath the coach or in a dedicated trailer.

While the exact coach style may vary depending on the departure, all our coaches offer comfortable seating. Keep in mind that Wi-Fi and charging outlets might not always be available. To stay connected and avoid dead batteries, we recommend fully charging your devices beforehand or bringing a portable charger.

For longer journeys, we'll make sure to include ample restroom breaks along the way, so you can freshen up and recharge at your convenience, as facilities are not on-board the coach.

Itinerary Changes
Sometimes, unexpected things can happen, like unpredictable weather or higher-than-usual crowds at attractions. In these situations, your tour leader might need to adjust the itinerary slightly to improve your overall experience.

This flexibility ensures you get the most out of your tour! Your tour leader will always keep you informed of any changes and explain the reasoning behind them. Remember, when travelling with a group, sometimes going with the flow can lead to even more amazing experiences.

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Staying Connected
If you want to stay connected and access reliable internet while on tour, there are a few options available. It is possible to purchase a virtual sim and we recommend contacting your mobile phone provider for assistance in doing so. You can add a roaming data plan to your existing phone contract is another option, albeit an expensive one. You will need to arrange this before departure. Purchasing a local SIM at the airport is the final option. For a prepaid fee, you can get data by simply swapping your current SIM with your new SIM and depending on which package you purchase, you'll be able to text and make phone calls, just as you would at home.

We also recommend downloading WhatsApp and using this to communicate with other group members while on tour, and of course, after the tour if you'd like to stay in touch. Our tour leaders may also use this as a means of communicating essential tour information with you, as well as if you choose to add-on transfers to your booking, as your driver may use this to confirm arrangements with you.

Getting Around
While touring South America, you will be travelling by private coaches, planes, boats, and trains. South America is a very large continent, and to see all that it has to offer then there will be some long travel journeys on the coach. But rest assured there will be comfort stops along the way where you can freshen up, stretch your legs, use the bathroom and often, purchase refreshments. Generally, lunch stops will be taken at rest stops as they can easily accommodate our large groups.

The train ride to Machu Picchu is one of the most breathtaking journeys in Peru, and will be a highlight of the tour. This nearly two-hour tour takes you through the Sacred Valley of the Incas, descends along the Urubamba River, and ultimately reaches the enchanting cloud forest.

Hotel Ratings
Star ratings can differ between countries, reflecting diverse standards and amenities. To give you the most accurate picture possible, we don't just rely on a single source for hotel ratings. We go beyond by researching various trusted travel websites like Tripadvisor and Booking.com. This allows us to analyse a wider range of genuine customer reviews and experiences, giving you a well-rounded understanding of the hotel's typical star rating.

This means you can book with confidence, knowing the hotel has a strong track record of satisfied guests.

Accommodation Details
For our South American group tours, we carefully select 3-4 star hotels to ensure your comfort and convenience. In the Amazon, you will stay in simple yet very comfortable lodges that immerse you in the natural environment. These lodges often feature open-air walls with mosquito netting, allowing you to experience the jungle's sights and sounds. Each lodge has private bathrooms, though hot water may not always be available. Given the Amazon's heat, cool showers can be refreshing. Electricity is typically provided through a combination of solar power and generators, which may not run continuously throughout the night or during the day when guests are out on activities.

In the Galapagos, accommodations tend to be smaller 3-star hotels, often family-run. These hotels are clean and comfortable, each with private bathrooms. However, due to the limited availability of 4-star hotels on the islands, we offer the best options available, ensuring a pleasant and authentic stay in this unique location. It's important to note that, given the remote and isolated nature of the Galapagos, there are fewer options for accommodation, and it can be challenging to provide all creature comforts. Sometimes,

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there may be hot water outages, and occasional blackouts can occur. Hotels in the Galapagos do not have elevators, so you will have to be prepared to cary your luggage up stairs, as these hotels do not have porters. While it may be less comfortable than what you might experience on the mainland of South America, the opportunity to explore this extraordinary destination makes it well worth the experience.

Luggage Restrictions
While you're in the Galapagos Islands, inter-island travel will be by speedboat. To ensure a smooth journey, please limit your luggage to one suitcase per person, as space on the boats is limited.

Packing Essentials
What you need to pack for your tour will vary according to the tour style you have chosen, the countries you are visiting and when you are travelling. We recommend you pack as lightly as possible, ensuring that you can carry and lift your luggage, and walk with it for short distances or up or down a flight of stairs.

A lockable suitcase with wheels is ideal for this tour. Many tours will include internal flights which often have luggage weight restrictions, and it is recommended that you keep your main luggage weight around 15kg and no more than 20kg. A small or medium-sized backpack (45-50 litres) is another good option. You'll also need a day pack/bag to carry water, a camera, a jacket, and your essentials while touring during the day.

Clothing: Pack a mix of lightweight and warm layers. Long sleeves and pants are beneficial for mosquito protection. Choose clothes that are easy to wash and dry.

Swimwear: There will be opportunities to swim in the Galapagos, so pack swimwear accordingly.

Footwear: Closed-in shoes are recommended to protect your feet from injuries and potential bites or stings, whether you're walking in urban areas or through nature.

Sun Protection: Bring a hat, sunscreen, and sunglasses to shield yourself from the sun.

Warm Gear: Mountains and hill regions can get cold at night. A light, warm waterproof jacket is advisable.

Medical Kit: It's good to carry personal items like mild painkillers, electrolytes, Band-Aids, and insect repellent. Ensure you are travelling with any prescription medication that you may need.

Water Bottle: A capacity of at least 1.5 litres is recommended to reduce the environmental impact of bottled water.

Camera/Phone: Don’t forget to bring something to capture memories.

Comfort Items: Earplugs can help with noisy environments, a good book or journal for downtime, and a music player for entertainment.

Amazon Jungle Packing List: Long, light coloured, tight-weave cotton shirts and pants. Comfortable shoes or sandals for wearing on boardwalks or around the lodge. Long, thick socks to wear with the rubber boots provided by the lodge. Tropical strength insect

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repellent. Head torch or flashlight (optional, smartphone torch sufficient) and binoculars (optional).

Climate
South America's climate varies significantly across its vast landscape,from mountains, to jungles, to the coast.

In Argentina, Summer (December to February) brings warm temperatures, especially in Buenos Aires. Winter (June to August) can be quite cool.

Brazil, spanning the equator, boasts a tropical climate. A pleasant time to visit is during the dry season (May to September), with comfortable temperatures and lower humidity, ideal for exploring Rio de Janeiro and the Amazon Rainforest. The wet season (December to March) can be hot and humid, but it's also carnival time, a vibrant cultural experience.

Peru's climate is diverse due to its varying geography. The coastal region, including Lima, is temperate from December to April. The Andean highlands, with Machu Picchu, are most accessible during the dry season (May to September). The Amazon rainforest experiences heavy rainfall from November to April, making travel more challenging.

The Galapagos Islands have a unique climate with two main seasons. From December to May, the weather is warm and wet, featuring occasional showers and plenty of sunshine, making it ideal for enjoying the beaches and wildlife. From June to November, the islands experience a cooler, dry season with rougher waters and often overcast skies, perfect for diving and spotting marine life. Each season offers its own unique experiences, making the Galapagos a year-round destination.

Understanding these seasonal variations ensures a more enjoyable and comfortable travel experience in South America.

Currency and ATMs
ATMs are readily accessible in major towns and cities throughout Latin America. Credit cards are typically accepted in tourist-oriented shops and restaurants, with Visa and Mastercard being more widely accepted than American Express, Diners Club, and other cards. Smaller establishments often require cash payments. Before your tour, verify with your bank whether your card is accepted in your destination countries and familiarise yourself with any applicable fees and charges. Note that withdrawal limits can vary by country and may be as low as the equivalent of USD 100 per day, regardless of your home country's limit. If you plan to bring cash, be aware that local banks may reject USD 100 bills with serial numbers starting with CB or BE, as well as any old, torn, written-on, or stamped bills.

Food and Allergies
South America presents a rich tapestry of culinary experiences for travellers. This can be seen in Argentina's renowned steaks and Malbec wines, Brazil's traditional feijoada (bean stew) and refreshing caipirinhas, Ecuadorian Empanadas, and Peru's ceviche and diverse quinoa dishes. Each country's cuisine reflects a blend of indigenous traditions and European influences.

While travelling with Inspiring Vacations you'll enjoy iconic sightseeing, as well as experience the vast array of culinary offerings in South America. While many meals will be eaten together with your group, not all meals are included in your tour which gives you maximum flexibility in deciding where, what and with whom to eat. If you have dietary requirements and/or food allergies, please let our Customer Support Team know before

departure. Your Inspiring Vacations Tour Guide or Local Guide will also be able to give suggestions on which restaurants to try during your tour. For those with a particular food allergy, your Inspiring Vacations Tour Guide will endeavour to advise the main ingredients in the dishes consumed. It is, however, still your responsibility to ensure that you do not ingest any problematic ingredients.

Local Customs
Many places in South America have deep cultural and historical significance. It is important to respect local customs, traditions, and historical sites. For instance, in Peru, it's important to be respectful and follow rules when visiting archaeological sites like Machu Picchu.

In many South American countries, greetings are important and may involve kisses on the cheek (one or both sides) or a warm handshake. Personal space can be closer than in some Western cultures.

Dress Code
When travelling in South America, you can dress casually and comfortably in cities and tourist spots with jeans, shorts, and t-shirts. For religious sites or rural areas, it can be recommended to opt for modest attire covering shoulders and knees, particularly for women, however we suggest you discuss this with your Dedicated tour Leader first. In beach destinations like Rio de Janeiro, beachwear like swimsuits is appropriate. Comfortable shoes are essential for city exploration and visiting historical sites.

Responsible Dining
Avoid consuming endangered species or items harvested unsustainably. Be respectful of local customs and food practices, and always tip fairly to support local workers. Responsible dining helps protect the environment and promotes the well-being of local communities.

Tipping Your Leader, Local Guide or Driver
A friendly reminder that tipping is not included in your package. Tipping is not compulsory on your tour, but they can make a big difference to locals employed in the tourism industry and is a welcome way to show your appreciation. If you feel that your guide/s and driver have done an impeccable job, you can choose to give a gratuity, but this is entirely your decision.

The suggested tipping amounts are: USD 2-3 per person per day for local guides; USD 1-2 per person per day for your driver and USD 2-4 per person per day for your tour leader. In restaurants and cafes, 10% of the bill is normally expected. Please note that this information is to be used as a guideline only and it’s based on the recommendation from our ground teams and past travellers. Tipping in local currency is the norm.

Peak Travel Times
Peak travel times in South America vary by region. In the Southern countries like Argentina and Chile, December to February sees a surge in visitors drawn to summer beach destinations and Patagonia's wilderness. Brazil's peak season aligns with its summer from December to March, highlighted by the vibrant Carnival festivities in February. For the Andean countries such as Peru, Ecuador, and Bolivia, the dry season from May to September is ideal for trekking and exploring Machu Picchu, and sees many visitors. The peak travel times for the Galapagos Islands are from December to May, when the weather is warm and ideal for exploring the diverse wildlife and stunning landscapes. Throughout the Amazon Rainforest, the dry season from June to October is favoured for wildlife observation and easier access to remote areas.

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Safety and Security
Most national governments provide regularly updated foreign travel advice on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your own government's advice for the most up-to-date travel information before departure and ensure that your travel insurance covers you for all destinations and activities on your tour.

Your Inspiring Vacations Tour Leader or local representative will accompany you on all included activities listed on the itinerary, however, you'll have some free time to explore on your own. While your Inspiring Vacations tour leader or local guide will assist you as best they can with your requests and the options available outside your itinerary, please note Inspiring Vacations makes no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running the activity. Please use your judgement when selecting an activity in your free time.

Please also note that your Inspiring Vacations tour leader or local guide has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the itinerary if it's deemed necessary due to safety concerns.

Travelling in South America offers incredible experiences, but it's essential to stay mindful of safety and security. Secure your belongings and blend in by dressing inconspicuously. Stay aware of your surroundings, especially in crowded places or at night, and use trusted transportation options.

Apps to Download
Some useful apps you may want to consider downloading before your tour include Google Translate, the lens function is especially useful when wanting to read product labels, signs, and menus. Google Maps with offline maps downloaded is great for easy navigation without being reliant on wifi. We also recommend downloading WhatsApp before you leave and using this to communicate with other group members while on tour.

Post-Tour Feedback
Once your booking is confirmed, you will receive a link to a post-purchase survey, which is your opportunity to share your feedback with us on your booking experience and interactions with our Sales and Customer Success teams. This feedback is invaluable to ensure that we are servicing our customers to the best of our ability.

Furthermore, towards the end of your travels and while you are in your destination, you will receive an email from us with a link to an in-depth tour survey. It is very important to us that we hear from our customers to ensure that we continue to meet and exceed customers' expectations, so this will be your opportunity to let us know how your tour has been, what has worked well and potentially what could be improved.

Finishing Point
Your finishing hotel may differ from the original itinerary. Please refer to your final documentation which will be provided approximately 14-30 days before departure for your confirmed hotel list. If you need to book additional post-tour accommodation, please do so once you have the final hotel list. We recommend booking a flexible rate that can be changed or cancelled without penalty should there be any unforeseen changes to your booking.

Travellers will depart at various times throughout the day depending on flights booked. Check-out time is generally from 10am-12pm. You are welcome to leave your luggage at hotel reception and spend your final moments of free time exploring the area or please

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speak with hotel staff if you would like to extend your check-out time. This service is subject to availability and will likely come at an additional cost payable directly.

Departure Details
There are no activities on the final day of your tour, and you can check out of the hotel at your own convenience. Airport transfers are **not included** as part of your package. However, we trust that your journey from the hotel to the airport will be comfortable and hassle-free.

Depending on the package purchased, you may have the option to add airport transfers to your booking and you can do so through your Traveller Hub account. We partner with an online marketplace where travellers can compare and select the transfer of their choice.

Inspiring Vacations acts as an agent on behalf of our transfer service partner and any service is delivered by the provider. Inspiring Vacations cannot be held liable for any loss resulting from the transfer service provided. It is the customer's responsibility to ensure any transfer booked meets the requirements of any other travel arrangements. Likewise, your tour leader or any of our on-ground representatives cannot be held responsible for the service of your transfer nor are they in a position to assist with amending your reservation. Any transfer booking is separate from any other booking with Inspiring Vacations, regardless of whether purchased with regards to the same travel journey.

When you make your transfer service booking, you will receive a confirmation email and this will include your meeting instructions, as well as direct contact details. Please ensure you print and bring this with you as you will need to ensure you can make direct contact with your transfer service provider.

FLIGHT INFORMATION

This is a **land-only** package.

This package does not include international airfares. If you would like to add airfares to your booking our flight portal will be available via your Traveller Hub. The flight portal will allow you to search for all available airfares to your destination. The function works like most general flight search engines allowing you to select your preferred airline, book different cabin classes (eg. Business class) and view flight durations and transit times to your destination.

The flight portal will be available via your Traveller Hub once the following criteria has been met:

- Your booking is confirmed
- Your departure date is within 11 months
- You have completed your passenger detail form

Visit our Flight Hub for more information on terms and conditions, amending your flights and information on luggage allowances.

Home & Afar Travel
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