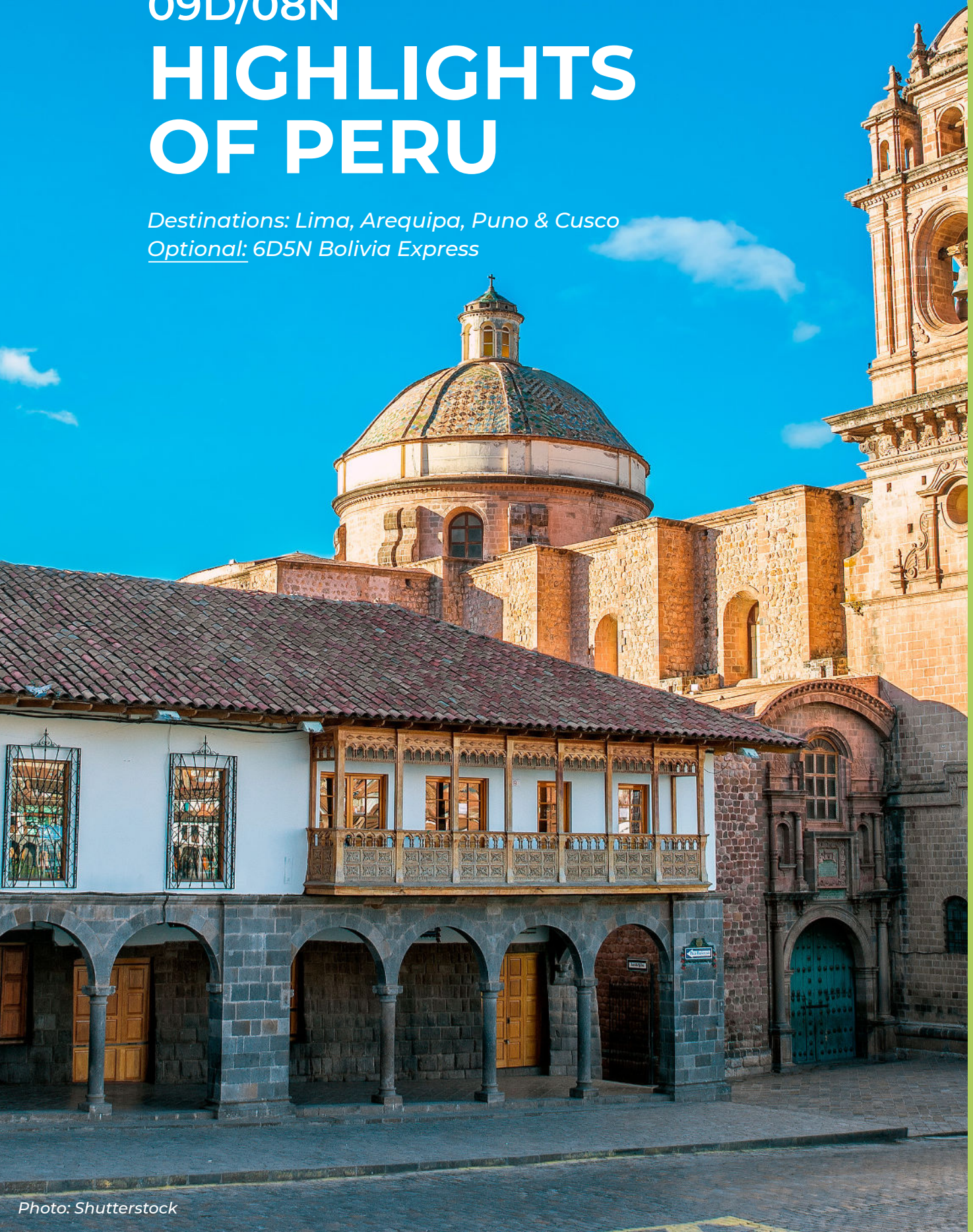


09D/08N

# HIGHLIGHTS OF PERU

*Destinations: Lima, Arequipa, Puno & Cusco*  
*Optional: 6D5N Bolivia Express*



# INTRODUCTION

Embark on a captivating journey through the highlights of Peru. From the vibrant capital of Lima to the ancient ruins of Machu Picchu, this adventure promises an unforgettable experience. Explore the "White City" of Arequipa, marveling at its volcanic rock architecture and visiting the iconic Santa Catalina Monastery. Venture into the breathtaking Colca Canyon, twice as deep as the Grand Canyon, and witness the majestic flight of the Andean Condors. Discover the picturesque town of Puno on the shores of Lake Titicaca and indulge in the captivating culture of the local Quechua-speaking community. Conclude your journey in the enchanting city of Cusco, the heart of the Inca Empire, before embarking on a magical visit to the ancient ruins of Machu Picchu. This carefully crafted itinerary promises to reveal the diversity, beauty, and rich heritage of Peru at every step.



Destination: Lima,  
Arequipa, Puno, Cusco



Travel dates:  
2023

# LIMA ARRIVAL

On arrival into **Lima**, be met and transferred to hotel. Guided assistance included.

Lima, the capital of Peru, sits on the country's arid Pacific coast. Founded in 1535, its colonial centre is well preserved, but today Lima is a bustling metropolis and one of South America's largest cities. The city is home to the various museums including the Museo Larco that houses a collection of pre-Columbian art and the Museo de la Nación, tracing the history of Peru's ancient civilizations. Lima is known as the "gastronomical capital of the Americas", encompassing specialties from ceviche and traditional coastal cooking to refined global fare. It even boasts several of the top restaurants in the world.



Overnight at  
selected hotel.



Photo: Shutterstock

# LIMA - AREQUIPA,

## AFTERNOON CITY TOUR & SANTA CATALINA MONASTERY

At the appropriate time pick up from hotel and transfer to the airport to take your onward flight to Arequipa.

Arrival into **Arequipa** and transfer to hotel.

This afternoon, explore the beautiful Arequipa, known locally as “The White City” due to its glistening white buildings built from volcanic rock. Visit several sites throughout the city including the **UNESCO World Heritage-listed Santa Catalina Monastery**, the **Main Square**, the Complex of **San Francisco** and the **Arequipa Cathedral**, one of the biggest in South America. Then take time to wander through the cobblestone streets of the Spanish Colonial district, **Yanahuara**, before heading to the viewpoint to take in the magnificent views of the city and its three stunning volcanoes: Misti, Chachani and Pichu Pichu.



Private english speaking guide.



Duration: approx. 3 hours 30 min.



Includes breakfast.



Overnight at selected hotel.

## DAY 3

# AREQUIPA

## COLCA CANYON - DAY 1

This morning, travel from Arequipa to **Chivay**. Pass across the snow-capped Misti, Chachani and the Ampato Volcanoes before arriving to the Colca Valley, the entrance to the famous **Colca Canyon**, thought to be twice as deep as the Grand Canyon and home to a large population of Andean Condors.

Continuing our journey into the Andes, pass the villages of Torja, Chucura, Patapampa, with their Colonial churches and Inca terracing. Also pass by some great **viewpoints** in the valley such as Corporaque Viewpoint. In the afternoon, return to the sleepy village of Chivay.



Private english speaking guide.



Duration: approx. 5 hours.



Includes breakfast.



Overnight at selected hotel.

# COLCA CANYON TOUR

## DAY 2 - BUS TO PUNO

Following breakfast, head to the **'Cruz del Condor'**, a spot considered to be the best viewpoint to watch the majestic Condors ascending from the valley on the early-morning thermals. After this amazing spectacle, continue the journey passing through several villages and taking in the beautiful Andean scenery and fascinating pre-Inca, Inca and Colonial history of the area.

Return to Chivay for lunch (not included) and afterwards continue to Puno by bus. On the way, stop at Pampa Cañahuas to see "Vicuñas" and at Lagunillas for birdwatching.

Arrive to **Puno** and transfer to hotel.

Puno is located on the shores of **Lake Titicaca**, the highest navigable lake in the world. It is the largest city in the Southern Altiplano and an important agricultural and livestock (llamas and alpacas) region. It is located at an altitude of over 3,800 meters and is a picturesque hillside town and a melting pot of Aymara and Quechua culture.



Private english speaking guide (for Colca).



Includes breakfast.



Tourist-Bus Chivay-Puno, duration approx 6 hrs



Overnight at selected hotel.



# PUNO TITICACA

## EXPERIENCE BOAT TOUR

At 7:00 am you will be met and transferred to the port where you will board a speedboat to head to **Taquile Island**. Disembarking at a secluded part of the island, we explore a scenic and less touristy area of Taquile Island (exclusive). Enjoy a pristine sandy beach where you will have plenty of time to relax and feel the serenity of Lake Titicaca.





We then hike along a pre-Inca trail with spectacular landscapes of the island, visiting families of weavers to learn about their textile art and symbolism. In 2005, "Taquile and its Textile Art" were proclaimed "Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity" by UNESCO. After 3 hours on Taquile, we leave the island for the short 25-minute journey to the community of Santa Maria-Llachon, on the tip of the **Capachica Peninsula**. This is a picturesque off the beaten track destination. We are welcomed by the small Quechua speaking community and introduced to an intensive cultural experience, observing the traditions of the **community** and participating in an **ancient ceremony** to learn about their magical world.

Then, experience the preparation of "**Pachamanca**", a traditional way of cooking meat, fish and potatoes using underground ovens, and one of the main dishes of Peruvian cuisine. After lunch leave Santa Maria and 35 minutes later arrive at a remote area of the National Reserve of Lake Titicaca to explore **Uros Ccapi**. These are the last authentic floating islands, less commercial and little visited. The Uros are descendants of one of the oldest cultures in South America. Depart back to Puno at 15:25 pm. And arrive to the city around 16:30pm.



Photo: Shutterstock

*\*\*From December to March, if the required number of passengers is not reached (8 paxs minimum), we will offer you a similar alternative. Please also note that between the months of January and March the ceremony of ""Pachamama"" will be subject to weather conditions.*

 International group with english-speaking guide.	 Duration: approx. 8 hours.
 Includes breakfast and lunch.	 Overnight at selected hotel.

## DAY 6





# PUNO - CUSCO

## AFTERNOON WALKING TOUR IN CUSCO

This morning, pick up from hotel and transfer to the airport for onward flight to Cusco.

Arrive in the famous city of Cusco and transfer to the hotel.

This afternoon, explore Cusco, the heart of the Inca Empire, learn of the city's fascinating history, from the Inca times to colonial rule, up to the present day. Visit the fascinating **Koricancha** Temple of the Sun, the **12-Angled Rock**, and the **Cathedral**, built on the ruins of an Inca Palace.

 International group with english speaking guide in Cusco.	 Duration: approx. 3 hours.
 Includes breakfast.	 Overnight at selected hotel.

## DAY 7

# CUSCO

## SACRED VALLEY TOUR

This morning you will be collected from your hotel for full day of exploring the **Sacred Valley of the Incas**. This fertile river valley was home to many important sites for the Incas, both strategic and religious. The first stop is the village of Pisac, with its famous market.

The colonial village of Pisac sits at the base of the spectacular Pisac Ruins – a hilltop Inca citadel and fortress with impressive agricultural terracing. On market days Pisac comes alive with locals from nearby hillside villages in traditional dress selling local fruit and vegetables as well as handicrafts. There is free time to wander the colourful market stalls before having buffet lunch at a local restaurant.

Continue the journey along the River Urubamba, to **Ollantaytambo**. The town, which is dominated by a giant Inca fortress, is perhaps the best surviving example of Inca town planning and was the scene of a rare Inca victory over the invading Spanish. At the end of the tour transfer to Ollantaytambo train station to continue the journey to **Aguas Calientes**.

Travel to Machu Picchu in a comfortable train, and let your feet have rest. Enjoy an authentic Andean experience, while relaxing in modern and comfortable interior design illuminated by Latin American music.

*\*Due to limited space for luggage storage on trains, luggage restrictions apply: one bag or backpack (carry-on luggage) with a maximum weight of 5.0 kg/11 lb, measuring no more than 62 linear inches/157 linear cm (height + length + width).*

Upon arrival to train station in Aguas Calientes, walking transfer to the hotel.



Duration of tour:  
approx. 6 hours.



Duration of train ride:  
approx. 1h. 30 min.



Overnight at  
selected hotel.



Includes breakfast,  
lunch and dinner.



Photo: Oscar Gill



# MACHU PICCHU TOUR

The tour starts with a bus ride from Aguas Calientes to **Machu Picchu**. You will be astonished at your first view of Machu Picchu, a stunning display of ancient architecture with incredible surroundings. Enjoy a guided tour of the ruins and monuments such as the Main Square, the Circular Tower, the Sacred Solar Clock, the Temple of the Three Windows and the Cemeteries.

Machu Picchu is a 15th century Inca site, located 2,430 meters above sea level on a mountain ridge above the Sacred Valley. It is the most famous of all Inca sites, but it was not until 1911 that it was brought to the world's attention by the American

historian Hiram Bingham. The Incas abandoned the city just prior to Spanish colonization, the city was never pillaged and as a result the ruins are still in fantastic condition. With its location on a dramatic ridgeline surrounded by sheer cliffs and the Urubamba River on three sides, the city of Machu Picchu is a remarkable place to visit. Machu Picchu was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1983 and in 2007 it was voted one of the new Seven Wonders of the World.

After exploring Machu Picchu, take the bus down to Aguas Calientes and head to the station to board the train back to Ollantaytambo. Finally, transfer to Cusco hotel.



Private english speaking guide.



Duration of tour: approx. 2h 30 min.



Includes breakfast.



Overnight at selected hotel.



Duration of train ride: approx. 1h. 30 min.



Photo: Willian Justen de Vasconcellós

# CUSCO FAREWELL PERU

At the appropriate time transfer to the airport for onward flight to Lima.



Includes  
breakfast.

*End of services.*

## INFO

# RECOMMENDED HOTELS

### Lima

**Superior:** Casa República Barranco | **Room:** Garden Superior

**Deluxe:** Hotel B | **Room:** Aposento

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### Arequipa

**Superior:** Costa del Sol Arequipa | **Room:** Superior

**Deluxe:** Casa Andina Premium | **Room:** Suite

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### Colca

**Superior:** Sonesta Posada | **Room:** Standard

**Deluxe:** GHM Puno | **Room:** Premium

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### Cusco

**Superior:** Aranwa Cusco | **Room:** Superior

**Deluxe:** Palacio del Inca | **Room:** Deluxe

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### Machu Picchu

**Superior:** El Mapi | **Room:** Superior Deluxe

**Deluxe:** Machu Picchu Pueblo | **Room:** Superior

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06D/05N

# BOLIVIA EXPRESS

*Destinations: La Paz & Uyuni*



# LA PAZ ARRIVAL

## AFTERNOON PRIVATE CITY TOUR

On **arrival into La Paz**, be met and transferred to hotel.

In the afternoon we will have a 4-hr **city tour**. We will first go to the southern neighborhoods to visit the **Moon Valley**, a fascinating geological anomaly called like this because of its bizarre, moon-like landscape. Then we will get on the **cable car** and see the fascinating landscapes of La Paz city. We will also explore the central neighborhood in La Paz city. We will pass through to **witches' market**, the **San Francisco cathedral**, the **main square (Plaza Murillo)** and the historical **center of La Paz**.



Private english speaking andean priest.



Overnight at selected hotel.



Includes breakfast.

# LA PAZ UYUNI VILLAMAR

Pick up from the hotel and transfer to the airport to take the **flight to Uyuni**.

Upon arrival, we will first visit the **train cemetery**. Then we will travel south, passing through the small town of **San Cristobal**, the **Alota Valley** and visit the **Katal Lagoon**. We will pass through the **Valley of the Rocks** and finally arrive in **Villamar**. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.



Jeep with private english speaking guide.



Overnight at selected hotel.



Includes breakfast, lunch and dinner.

# VILLAMAR EDUARDO AVAROA

## ANDEAN FLORA AND FAUNA RESERVE COLCHANI

Today we leave the hotel early in the morning to visit the **Dali desert** and the **Sol de Mañana geysers** (located at 5,000 masl). Then we will pass by the **hot springs** of Polques and visit the **green lagoon**. We continue our trip back to the north, passing by the **Siloli desert** and **Laguna Colorada**, where we will be able to see many flamingos.

In the late afternoon we will arrive in **Colchani**, where we will sleep in a hotel made of salt blocks.



Jeep with private english speaking guide.



Overnight at selected hotel.



Includes breakfast, lunch and dinner.



Photo: Vincent Etter

# UYUNI SALT FLATS LA PAZ

Departure approx. 10:00am. First we will visit the town of Colchani where the **salt processing** and handicrafts are located. Then, finally we will enter the **Salar de Uyuni**. We will visit **Incahuasi Island** and have a special lunch in the middle of the salt flat. We will have free time to take pictures and, if there is enough time, we can enjoy a beautiful **sunset surrounded by salt**. At the end, we continue to the town of Uyuni to rest.

**Note:** During the rainy season (November-March) it may not be possible to cross the salt flats to Incahuasi Island. If this is the case, the tour will remain on the edges of the salt flats.



Jeep with private english speaking guide.



Overnight at selected hotel.



Includes breakfast, and lunch.



## DAY 5

# UYUNI LA PAZ

After breakfast, pick up from the hotel and transfer to the airport to take the **flight back to La Paz**.

Upon arrival, transfer to the hotel and the rest of the day is free to rest.



Overnight at  
selected hotel.



Includes  
breakfast.

## DAY 6

# LA PAZ FAREWELL

Pick up from the hotel and transfer to the airport.



Includes  
breakfast.

*End of services.*



Photo: Rodrigo Gonzales

# RECOMMENDED HOTELS

## La Paz

Superior: La Casona Boutique | Room: Standard

Deluxe: Casa Grande hote | Room: Standar

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## Villamar

Superior: Jardines de Mallku Cueva | Room: Standard

Deluxe: Jardines de Mallku Cueva | Room: Standar

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## Colchani

Superior: Luna Salada | Room: Standard

Deluxe: Palacio de Sal | Room: Standard

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## Uyuni

Superior: Jardines de Uyuni | Room: Standard

Deluxe: Jardines de Uyuni | Room: Standard

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