



## Peruvian Paradise

### *Andean Highlights*

April 20 – 30, 2023

#### **Day 1 – Thursday, 20 April 2023**

*Arrive in Lima*

Plan your arrival for any convenient time today. Your hotel room will be available from 3pm onwards. Many flights from the USA arrive in the late evening, so we have not included any welcome activities today. You will be met at the airport and transferred to our hotel for a free evening. Please let us know on your reservation form if you would like to arrive a day before (on 19 April) to enjoy more free time in Lima. **(Meals aloft)**

#### **Day 2 – Friday, 21 April 2023**

*Lima City Tour / Welcome Dinner*

After breakfast, embark on a city tour beginning with a visit to the Plaza Mayor, the official center of the city and the original site upon which Lima was founded. Visit the historic Cathedral, an architectural masterpiece. From the Cathedral, walk past the Presidential Palace (where the soldiers guarding the palace offer an excellent photo opportunity) and on to the Church of Santo Domingo. Then, visit the Larco Herrera Museum, an extensive private collection of pre-Inca ceramics. See also the fascinating Archaeological Museum, showcasing the progression of Peru's various early civilizations – from the Chavin in 1200 BC to the Incas. After a panoramic tour of other notable highlights, enjoy free time at the hotel before our welcome festivities.

**(Breakfast / Welcome Dinner)**

#### **Day 3 – Saturday 22 April 2023**

*Fly to Cusco / The Sacred Valley*

This morning we take an hour-and-a-half flight from Lima to Cusco. We plan to take it easy when we arrive due to the sudden change in altitude. We'll enjoy a leisurely lunch, and then transfer to a lower elevation at The Sacred Valley for two nights to acclimatize. Along the way we stop at Manos de la Comunidad, a center where South American Camelids (members of the camel family including Llamas, Alpacas, Guanacos and Vicunas) are all bred. Learn about the renowned fibers created from their coats, as well as the ancient weaving techniques which are still practiced to this day. **(Breakfast / Lunch)**

## **Day 4 – Sunday 23 April 2023**

### *Touring the Sacred Valley*

Meet Quechua-speaking farmers and weavers on an inspiring visit to an Andean highland community in the Sacred Valley near the well-known market town and former Inca royal palace of Chinchero. This personal encounter reveals the unique lifestyle and traditions of descendants from the mighty Inca Empire. Explore their village, see and taste the typical food of the area, understand their ancient medical remedies, watch weavers at work, wander into the fields to learn about local agricultural practices and join in a traditional Andean blessing (*Pago a la Tierra*). Drive through the valley to the salt pans of Maras (*Salineras de Maras*) to appreciate a method of salt extraction used since Inca times. From the village of Maras, continue to Moray, a fascinating archaeological site comprising a series of concentric agricultural terraces, some as deep as 150 meters (492 feet), while enjoying the magnificent views this part of the Sacred Valley offers. **(Breakfast / Picnic Lunch)**

## **Day 5 – Monday 24 April 2023**

### *Train to Machu Picchu*

Transfer to Ollantaytambo and see the formidable stone structure which sits at the summit of a high peak and was the valley's main defense. It was the site of the Incas' greatest victory against the Spanish during the wars of conquest. Below the fortress lies a complete Incan town, also called Ollantaytambo, which is still inhabited to this day with its original architecture and layout preserved. Here we board the Vistadome train bound for Machu Picchu. Our late morning arrival allows plenty of time to begin our explorations of this breathtaking Incan citadel. After dropping our bags at our hotel, we board a shared bus (per regulations) from the town of Aguas Calientes at the base of the mountain up to the historic site of Machu Picchu. Upon arrival we have a buffet lunch at the Sanctuary Lodge just outside the citadel gates. Then, accompanied by our guide, we explore the city's ruins and feel its pulse as we imagine the lives of the priests, craftsmen, and servants who inhabited this seemingly uninhabitable citadel. **(All Meals)**

## **Day 6 – Tuesday 25 April 2023**

### *Morning at Machu Picchu / Transfer to Cusco*

Return this morning for another visit to the citadel of Machu Picchu. Machu Picchu is widely-known for its great spirituality and the best time to experience the serenity of the citadel is in the early morning. Today you have another chance to visit the ruins and to capture some memorable images. Climb up Machu Picchu mountain, where you can observe the Machu Picchu citadel as a whole, as well as enjoying a privileged view of Huayna Picchu mountain and the stunning surrounding landscapes. (Please Note: Access to Huayna Picchu is limited and must be arranged prior to departure. Let us know on the reservation form if you would like to purchase a permit to do this challenging climb.) We return to Aguas Calientes for lunch, and then reboard the Vistadome train to Ollantaytambo, where we continue by private bus to our hotel in Cusco. **(Breakfast / Lunch)**

## **Day 7 – Wednesday 26 April 2023**

### *Cusco*

Today, discover Cusco on a city tour beginning at the architecturally-stunning Cathedral on the Plaza de Armas, considered to be one of the most beautiful churches in the Americas. Its construction was influenced by the great Spanish cathedrals of the era, reflecting gothic, renaissance and baroque styles. Another ornate church is Santo Domingo, a 16th-century Dominican church and convent built on the foundations of the Koricancha, the Incas' principal religious building, dedicated to the worship of the sun. Next, explore the well-preserved ruins of Sacsayhuaman, a testament to Incan architectural skills and compiled of enormous stones, which were cut and placed together with incredible precision and without any mortar to hold them in place. This ancient fortress overlooks the red-tiled roofs of Cusco and the spectacular surrounding countryside and is where the greatest battle between the Spanish and Incas took place. **(Breakfast / Dinner)**

## **Day 8 – Thursday 27 April 2023**

### *Train to Lake Titicaca*

Transfer to Cusco train station to board the Belmond Andean Explorer.

- 10:00** Check in at Wanchaq Station – Cusco
  - 11:00** Train departure from Cusco
  - 13:00** Lunch on board
  - 16:30** Arrival at la Raya
  - 16:45** Tea time at the bar car
  - 19:00** Cocktails and canapes at the Piano bar
  - 19:30** Dinner on board
  - 22:00** Arrival at the Titicaca Lake Station - Puno Dock
- Overnight at Titicaca Lake Station – Puno **(All Meals)**

## **Day 9 – Friday 28 April 2023**

### *Puno to Saracocha*

Sunrise at Titicaca Lake

- 06:00** Breakfast on board
  - 09:00** Visit to the Uros Islands
  - 12:30** Lunch at Puno Dock hangar
  - 16:50** Departure to Saracocha
  - 19:00** Cocktails and canapes on board
  - 19:30** Dinner on board
  - 21:30** Arrival at Saracocha
- Observation of stars and constellations(subject to weather conditions)  
Overnight at Saracocha **(All Meals)**

## **Day 10 – Saturday 29 April 2023**

### *Saracocha to Arequipa*

Sunrise at Saracocha

**06:00** Breakfast on board

**09:50** Sumbay Caves Tour

**12:30** Lunch on board

**15:30** Arrival in Arequipa.

Upon arrival we transfer by private bus to our hotel. Tonight we celebrate the conclusion of our adventures in Peruvian Paradise with a gala Farewell Dinner. *(All Meals)*

## **Day 11 – Sunday 30 April 2023**

### *Arequipa Tour / Departure*

Most flights connecting with international departures from Lima leave Arequipa in the evening. So as not to squander this day waiting for our flights, we have extended our hotel check-out to 6pm today in order to see some of the highlights of Arequipa. Time permitting, we plan to see:

- The Colonial District of Yanahuara, famous for its churches built in an Andalucian style
- The Viewpoint of Carmen Alto with its beautiful landscape
- The Neighborhood of San Lázaro where Arequipa was founded
- The Church of San Francisco with its beautiful plaza that dates back to the XVIII century
- The Main Square, including the façade of the Cathedral
- The Church of La Compañía de Jesús, founded in the XVII century by the Jesuits, famous for its Cloisters
- The Santa Catalina Monastery, which is the most important and impressive religious monument in Perú, founded in 1579

After lunch at a local restaurant, we return to the hotel to freshen up for the journey ahead and check out. Transfer to the Arequipa Airport for your flight to Lima. Try to book a flight departing Arequipa at around 7pm, with your international flight departing Lima at 11pm or later. (We recommend LATAM Airlines #2116 departing AQP at 7:20pm, arriving LIM at 8:45pm.) Once you arrive at the Lima International Airport you will be met and assisted with your connection to your international flight home. *(Breakfast)*

### **Accommodation Summary:**

- JW Marriott in Lima (Deluxe Room – 2 nights)
- Inkaterra Hacienda Urubamba in The Sacred Valley (Casita Urubamba – 2 nights)
- Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo in Aguas Calientes (Superior Deluxe Room – 1 night)
- JW Marriott in Cusco (Deluxe Room – 2 nights)
- Belmond Andean Explorer (Suite – 2 nights)
- Casa Andina Premium Arequipa in Arequipa (Superior Room – 1 night, plus late check-out the following day)

## **PRICES**

\$7,200 per person in double occupancy hotel and train accommodations

\$9,700 per person in private hotel and train accommodations

Tour prices based on 10 guests. We will guarantee departure once eight guests have booked. We have a limited number of suites reserved aboard the Belmond Andean Explorer train, so early bookings are encouraged to secure your place.