



Machu Picchu & Galapagos Cultural Adventure **April 28-May 16, 2021**

Depart Tulsa April 28th and arrive in Lima late evening (one connecting flight)

Day 1 (April 28): Arrival in Lima; transfer to hotel; check-in at Dazzler Lima Miraflores; overnight.

Day 2 (April 29): Breakfast at hotel; transfer to airport; flight from Lima to Cusco (known as the capital of the ancient empire); transfer to hotel; check-in at Casa Andina Standard Cusco Plaza Hotel; afternoon is free to explore Cusco; overnight at hotel.

Day 3 (April 30): Breakfast at hotel; morning walking tour of the city to see the main square in the district of San Blas, Hatunrumiyoc Street with the "12-angle stone", Nazarenas Square, Inca Museum, Cuzco Central Market, the cathedral, and the Koricancha or Temple of the Sun; in the afternoon you will visit nearby ruins of Sacsayhuaman (ceremonial fortress of monumental stones), Q'engo (ceremonial site where sacrifices took place), and Tambomachay (known as the Inca Baths); following this will be a panoramic tour of Puka-Pukará (a former tambo, which is a rest place for messengers or guard post along the Inca roads); return to hotel; overnight.

Day 4 (May 1): Breakfast at hotel; morning excursion to the Andean village of Chinchero, archaeological area, colonial church, the main square (where you can visit its open-air artisan market), textile workshop (weavers will demonstrate their techniques and use of natural dyes), Maras' salt mines (a salt supply station during the Inca period and still in use today), Moray's agricultural laboratory (characterized by its steep terraces with their diverse micro climates); lunch; afternoon visit to the Ollantaytambo Fortress; return to Cuzco; overnight at hotel.

Day 5 (May 2): Breakfast at hotel and transfer to kilometer 82, passing through the beautiful Sacred Valley of the Incas and village of Ollantaytambo. Upon arrival at Km 82 (2,792 m/9,158 ft), we will unpack and prepare ourselves for the trek ahead, alongside the excursion team (cooks, assistants, and porters). From this point, we will cross a bridge where we'll begin our ascent paralleling the Urubamba River (a river that crosses the Sacred Valley from north to west). In this first portion of the Inca Trail, we will visit the Miskay community



(2,800m/ 9,186 ft) where we'll meet some of the locals and try the well-known drink, "chicha". Shortly after, we will climb up to a small plateau with amazing views of the Andes Mountains and the Inca ruins of Patallacta. Here a local guide will share some fascinating history about the Inca legacy. We'll then continue walking for two hours along the Cusichaca River until we reach a beautiful spot, where we'll take our lunch break.

Shortly afterwards, we will continue with our hike through areas of dense vegetation where you are more than likely to catch a glimpse of the giant hummingbird, native to the region. After another two hours we will arrive at our first camp site in Wayllabamba (3,000m/ 9,843 ft). Dinner will be served, followed by a good night's rest.

Highest Elevation: 3,000m/ 9,843 ft

Lowest Elevation: 2,792 m/9,158 ft

Distance to hike: 12 km/ 7.47 miles

Approximate hike time: 5 - 6 hours

Level of Difficulty: Moderate

Day 6 (May 3): On the second day of our Inca Trail experience, you will wake up around 6:00 AM. An early start will ensure plenty of time to get ready and have breakfast before continuing onwards. We will walk along a narrow road covered by plants and across a small bridge that will lead us towards a uniquely beautiful cloud forest. In this portion of the trip, you will be climbing many stairs. Following the route, we will eventually arrive in the Lullucha pampa area, where we will take a quick break before climbing to the famous Warmy Huañuska Pass (highest altitude of the trek at 4,200m/13,776ft). This part of the trek will be the most difficult, but at the same time very rewarding, as you take in one of the most beautiful landscapes found anywhere. Once we reach the top of the mountain, you will be greeted with a spectacular view of the Andes mountains. At the top, you will be able to take pictures of the classic Inca Trail and may even be lucky enough to spot diverse species of wild birds.

Afterwards, we will arrive at Pacaymayo Camp (3,600m/11,808ft), where we will spend the night. Pacaymayo is an official campsite, offering baths and showers.



- Highest Elevation: 4,200 m/13,776 ft
- Lowest Elevation: 3,600m/11,808ft
- Distance to hike: 11 km /6,84 miles
- Approximate hike time: 6 - 7 hours
- Level of Difficulty: Challenging (due to elevation)

Day 7 (May 4): Many visitors say that Day 3 is one of the longest days of the excursion, but also one of the most spectacular, due in part to the remarkable Inca ruins scattered along the trail. After an early morning savory breakfast, we will begin walking up a steep road. A short while later we will arrive at the beautiful Runkurakay Ruins (3,800m/12,464ft), an oval construction believed to have been used by the Incas as a watchtower. After being given the background of its history, we will make our way to the Runkurakay Pass (3,970m/13,022ft). During this part of the hike, we will pass a small lake where you just might see Andean geese and other native species of birds. After the pass, we will descend through a beautiful valley full of plants. In the valley, we will visit the Sayacmarka Ruins, which are at 3,624m/11,887ft. This is an interesting Inca construction that was built on a steep slope and surrounded by lofty mountains.

After visiting Sayacmarka, we will continue descending through the cloud forest and then arrive at the Phuyupatamarca Ruins (3,700m/12,136ft). These ruins showcase the Incas impressive hydraulic engineering, consisting of spectacular fountains and water channels. From here, we will continue downward until we reach one of the most beautiful Inca ruins of all, Wiñaywayna (2,650m/8,692ft). This is a close second to Machu Picchu and are without a doubt one of the most beautiful of all the ruins. Wiñaywayna means "forever young" and it is said that the name comes from the abundant orchids (bearing the same name) native to the area. After exploring Wiñaywayna, we will head to our final campsite. This night, we will organize a small thank you party, as we say goodbye to our porters and tour staff who helped to make this such a memorable adventure!

- Accommodation: Camping
- Highest Elevation: 3,970m/13,022ft
- Lowest Elevation: 2,650m/8,692ft
- Hiking Distance: 16 km/9.94 miles
- Approximate hike time: 8 - 9 hours
- Level of Difficulty: Challenging



Day 8 (May 5): On our last day, we will wake up very early and quickly venture through the control gate and enter the path that leads directly to Machu Picchu. We advise you to bring a headlamp with you, as this will be before sunrise. After walking for 1.5 hours we will arrive at Inti Punko or “Sun Gate” (2,700m/ 8,858ft) - a magnificent outlook over the city of Machu Picchu. Here you can relax and take some breathtaking photos. From this point we will make our way down to the iconic Machu Picchu, which is considered “One of the Seven Wonders of the World”.

It was long thought that Machu Picchu was merely a legend - that was until the American explorer, Hiram Bingham, discovered it in 1911 after making many expeditions in the area. Machu Picchu rises to a height of (2,430m/7,972ft) and is extraordinarily located in the middle of a tropical forest. It is without a doubt one of the most amazing creations of the Inca Empire, with its rocky cliffs still showcasing to this day the masterful precision used to cut and form its walls, terraces, and ramps. Your guide will take you on a 2-hour tour through this beautiful and impressive Incan city. You will also have the opportunity to ascend Huayna Picchu Mountain (entrance is included, but a guide is not), which will provide you with magnificent views of the surrounding jungle and Andes Mountains!

Around Noon we will take the bus back to Aguas Calientes (2,040m/ 6,692 ft). In the afternoon we return to the station to catch the train to Ollantaytambo and then transfer to a bus for the remaining journey to Cusco (approximately 4 hours). From here you will check-in at Casa Andina Standard Cusco Plaza Hotel and have a relaxing evening.

- Highest Elevation: 2,700m/ 8,858ft
- Lowest Elevation: 2,430m/7,972ft
- Hiking Distance: 6 km/ 3.7 miles
- Approximate hiking time: 2 - 3 hours.
- Approximate time of Visit: 2 - 3 hours.
- Level of Difficulty: Easy

Day 9 (May 6): Breakfast at hotel; transfer to the airport; flight to Lima; private transfer from airport to hotel in the city of Ica; check-in at Las Dunas Hotel; afternoon cultural city tour of Ica and a visit to the regional archeological museum; evening is free; overnight at hotel

Day 10 (May 7): Breakfast at hotel. Morning flight over the famous Nazca Lines (these are so large they can be seen from space!) and an afternoon full of excitement riding dune buggies and skiing/sand boarding the dunes of the Huacachina Oasis! This will be an action-packed day



and an experience of a lifetime! Private transfer from the dunes to the hotel in Paracas on the coast; check-in at San Agustin Paracas Hotel; evening is free to relax; overnight at hotel.

Day 11 (May 8): Breakfast at hotel. Transfer to the jetty at Paracas Bay, followed by an enjoyable boat excursion to the Ballestas Islands. In route we will see the figure of “El Candelabro” (the Candelabrum), marine sea lions and numerous sea birds, such as the Humboldt penguin in its natural habitat, Inca terns, cormorants, etc.

Following the excursion will be the journey back to Lima. Upon arrival into Lima you will check-in at the Dazzler Lima Hotel in the exciting neighborhood of Miraflores. In Lima you will have the opportunity to discover the bohemian Barranco district, which is home to the cradle of poets/writers and part of the literary route of Mario Vargas Llosa. Overnight.

Day 12 (May 9): Breakfast at hotel; transfer to airport for flight to Guayaquil; transfer to and check-in at Hotel Continental; afternoon and evening are free to enjoy the city; overnight.

Day 13 (May 10): Breakfast at hotel; transfer to airport; flight to Baltra in the Galapagos Islands; reception at Baltra Airport by local guide; transfer to the Itabaca Canal; ferry to Santa Cruz Island; transfer to Dejavu Hotel and check-in. From here (depending on arrival time), we will transfer to the Highlands to visit one of the farms with giant tortoises and lava tubes. Lunch. Transfer to the Charles Darwin Scientific Station, followed by a walk along the Malecón. Return to hotel. Evening is free to enjoy.

Day 14 (May 11): Breakfast at hotel. Early morning transfer to the Itabaca Canal. From there we will sail to Plazas Island, which is one of the smallest islands. Here you will see a large colony of sea lions, swallow-tailed gulls, iguanas, tropical birds and a variety of flora that are full of cactus, tunas. Lunch on board the boat and return late afternoon. Transfer to hotel; evening is free to relax; overnight.

Day 15 (May 12): Breakfast at hotel. Early morning transfer to the Itabaca Canal and boat excursion to Seymour Island. Here we will hike along the coast and interior of the island, where there is an abundance of desert vegetation and "Palo Santo" birds (Frigates, Blue-footed Boobies, forked Gulls), marine iguanas, and colonies of sea lions. Lunch will be served on board the boat and in the afternoon, we will enjoy the white sand beach of Playa Bachas. Here you will have time for swimming and snorkeling, where you can observe sea turtles in their natural habitat. Late afternoon return to Santa Cruz. Evening is free to enjoy at leisure.



Day 16 (May 13): Breakfast at hotel. Early morning transfer from hotel to Playa Tortuga Bay. Here we will have a short hike (taking in the beautiful vegetation) to the beautiful beach of Playa Mansa. This beach has gorgeous white sand, mangrove lagoons, and is great for snorkeling. You will be able to see tropical fish, marine iguanas, and sea lions. Afternoon return to hotel, where you will enjoy a relaxing Lunch.

Mid-afternoon walk to the pier for a short boat trip to Loberia. Here you will have an opportunity to snorkel with sea lions, before we set sail to Punta Estrada. From here we will have an enjoyable walk to Las Grietas, where you will be able to swim in a beautiful natural pool in the sea. Return to Puerto Ayora. If time allows, you can enjoy the beach longer and return on your own. Overnight at hotel.

Day 17 (May 14): Breakfast at hotel; transfer to airport; flight to Guayaquil; transfer to hotel; check-in at Hotel Dejavu; evening is free to explore the city; overnight at hotel

Day 18 (May 15): Breakfast at hotel; transfer to the airport; flight home

Depart from Guayaquil very early in the morning on May 15th and arrive home in the evening

Included

- Flight from Tulsa to Lima (includes taxes and fuel surcharges, which are subject to change in price until flights have been reserved) - April 28
- 1-night of accommodations in a double room at Costa del Sol Hotel at the Lima Airport with breakfast - April 28
- Transfer from hotel to airport in Lima- April 29
- Round trip flights from Lima to Cusco Lima (includes taxes and fuel surcharges, which are subject to change in price until flights have been reserved) - April 29 and May 6
- Private transfer from airport to hotel in Cusco - April 29
- 4-nights of accommodations in a double room at Casa Andina Standard Cusco Plaza Hotel with breakfast - April 29-May 2 and 5
- Full-day walking city tour and excursion to several well-known local ruins (Sacsayhuaman, Q'enqo, Tambomachay, Puka-Pukará) - April 30 (includes local English-speaking guide, transportation, entrance fees)



- Full-day excursion to the Andean village of Chinchero, Pisac Market, and Fort Ollantaytambo (town and ruins located in the Sacred Valley) - May 1 (includes transportation, English-speaking guide, entrances to ruins, lunch)
- Inca Trail Trek (4 days/3 nights): May 2-5 (includes transportation, English-speaking guide, entrances to Machu Picchu ruins and Huayna Picchu Mountain, breakfasts/lunches/dinners, camping gear-except for sleeping bag)
- Vistadome Train from Aguas Calientes to Ollanta o Poroy - May 5 (approximate 3-hour train ride)
- Transfer from train station in Ollanta o Poroy to hotel in Cusco - May 5
- Private Transfer from hotel to airport in Cusco - May 6
- Private transfer from Lima Airport to hotel in Ica - May 6
- 1-night of accommodations in a double room at Las Dunas Hotel in Ica with breakfast - May 6
- Afternoon city tour of Ica and its surroundings-May 6 (includes English-speaking guide, museum entrance)
- Morning flight over the famous Nazca Lines - May 7
- Afternoon of dune buggy riding and skiing/sandboarding on the dunes of Huacachina Oasis - May 7
- Private transfer to Paracas on the coast - May 7
- 1-night of accommodations in a double room at San Agustin Paracas Hotel with breakfast - May 7
- Boat excursion to Ballestas Islands-May 8 (includes English-speaking guide, transportation)
- Private Transfer to hotel in Lima from Paracas - May 8
- 1-night of accommodations in a double room at Dazzler Lima Miraflores Hotel with breakfast - May 8
- Private transfer from hotel to airport in Lima - May 9
- Flight from Lima, Peru to Guayaquil, Ecuador (includes taxes and fuel surcharges, which are subject to change in price until flights have been reserved) - May 9
- Private transfer from airport to hotel in Guayaquil - May 9
- 2-nights of accommodations in a double room at Hotel Continental in Guayaquil with breakfast - May 9 and 14
- Private transfer from hotel to airport in Guayaquil - May 10



- Round trip flights from Guayaquil to Baltra on Galapagos Islands (includes taxes and fuel surcharges, which are subject to change in price until flights have been reserved) - May 10 and 14
- Private transfers to Itabaca Canal - May 10, 11, 12, 14
- Ferry to Santa Cruz Island - May 10
- Private transfer to hotel- May 10
- 4-nights of accommodations in a double room at Hotel Dejavu in Puerto Ayora with breakfast - May 10-14
- Excursion to the Highlands Farm and Charles Darwin Station - May 10 (includes English-speaking guide, transportation, lunch)
- Boat excursion to Plazas Island - May 11 (includes English-speaking guide, transportation, lunch)
- Boat excursion to Seymour Island - May 12 (includes English-speaking guide, transportation, lunch)
- Private transfer to Playa Tortuga Bay - May 13
- Excursion to Playa Tortuga Bay, Playa Mansa, Loberia, Las Grietas (includes English-speaking guide, transportation, lunch) - May 13
- Ferry to Baltra - May 14
- Private transfer to airport in Baltra - May 14
- Private transfer from airport to hotel in Guayaquil - May 14
- Private transfer from hotel in Guayaquil to airport - May 15
- Flight from Guayaquil to Tulsa (includes taxes and fuel surcharges, which are subject to change in price until flights have been reserved) - May 15

Package Price: \$6,797/person USD

**Trip package is based on double occupancy and in US Dollars. We will also be sending you a package proposal for a group of 10 people, which will lower the overall per person trip cost. If you end up getting more interest from Tulsa Ski Club members, then we can revise your package accordingly.*



Not Included

- Gratuities on excursions, at restaurants, nor on ground transfers
- Lunches and dinners not specified above
- Beverages (regular, nor non-alcoholic)