

PERU'S SACRED PLACES OF POWER

CULTURAL TOUR & PILGRIMAGE

AUGUST 2014

ITINERARY

PRE-TOUR: "MYSTERIES OF NAZCA"

lima - paracas - Ica - nazca
AUGUST 2 - AUGUST 6

DAY 1

August 2 (Sat)

ARRIVAL LIMA

Meals included: None

Welcome to Lima. Upon landing at Lima Jorge Chavez International Airport on your arriving flight, clear Immigration and Customs. Upon exiting the Customs Hall, you will be met by local airport representative of Lima Tours. (He/She will be holding a sign displaying your name).

You will be transferred to ESTELAR HOTEL (Standard room) located in the Miraflores district.

DAY 2

August 3 (Sun)

LIMA

Meals included: Breakfast at the hotel. Private lunch at Casa Luna.

Your tour starts downtown. You will get to know the Main Square, where Lima was first founded as "The City of Kings," in 1535. By the time Peru proclaimed its independence from the Spanish Crown in 1821, the city was well known as Lima. There you can see the Presidential Palace, the Archbishop's Palace and the Lima Cathedral. Next, you will go to Saint Francis' Church, which has an enviable collection of old books and an authentic network of catacombs open to the public.

Then, you will be transferred to Casa Luna. Enjoy a short visit of the house that contains exquisite example of Peruvian art over the centuries: pre-Columbian, examples from the colonial era and contemporary works, in addition to the exhibition of nativity scenes. In the dining room you can see old recipes collected by the family, which will introduce you to the smells and flavors of Peru's extraordinary gastronomy. Enjoy lunch (set menu).



Then, you will go to the Pueblo Libre district of Lima to enjoy an overview of Peru's pre-Columbian history at the Museum of Anthropology and Archaeology. Then stop at an old 16th century tavern where you will learn how to prepare Peru's national drink: the Pisco Sour. Hear anecdotes about the traditional pisco sour and learn to blend the perfect cocktail. Then celebrate with a toast of your own Pisco Sour. ¡Salúd!

Overnight at ESTELAR HOTEL (Standard room).

DAY 3

August 4 (Mon)

LIMA – PARACAS – ICA – PARACAS

Meals included: Breakfast at the hotel. Lunch at local restaurant.



Your tour will start en route to Ica, a city located at approximately 4 to 5 hours south of Lima. Lunch will be served at a local restaurant en route. You will stop at a the Huacachina Lagoon, also known as the “Oasis of the Americas.” Have some time to admire this amazing place before driving to Paracas.

Check in at ARANWA PARACAS RESORT & SPA (Deluxe room).

DAY 4

August 5 (Tue)

PARACAS – OVERFLIGHT NAZCA LINES – PARACAS

Meals included: Breakfast at the hotel.

Face one of the world's greatest mysteries while overflying the Nazca Lines. The town of Nazca, settled besides a small river crossing the desolate plain of San Jose, passed unnoticed until commercial airlines began crossing the desert during the late 1920's. Scientists' attention was immediately drawn to Nazca but the mystery remains unsolved. What exact purpose did they meet? We don't quite know. The truth is they depict coastal, highland and jungle fauna (whale, hummingbird, monkey, spider, etc.) as well as geometric figures (lines, trapeze, triangle, etc.).



Thereafter, weather and air-traffic controllers permitting, fly above the figured-scrapped hills of Palpa. The Palpa Lines are believed to predate those of Nazca, picturing animals and human

figures and a prominent deity. The Nazca culture flourished between BC 50 and 600 AD, studies suggesting their society suffered an environmental collapse derived from *huarango* deforestation.

Overnight at ARANWA PARACAS RESORT & SPA (Deluxe room).

DAY 5

August 6 (Wed)

PARACAS – LIMA

Meals included: Breakfast at the hotel. Boxed lunch. Dinner.



In the early morning, you will be transferred to the pier, to sail to the Ballestas Islands, home to a large population of sea lions, Humboldt penguins and other species found in the archipelago, an ideal place for their reproduction and co-existence. At the end of the tour you will return to Lima.

Check in at ESTELAR HOTEL
(Standard room).

Later in the afternoon, you will visit the Magical Water Circuit, a modern system of water fountains that attracts large crowds, both in the summer and winter, and is becoming one of Lima's new attractions. Then continue to La Dama Juana, a unique and comfortable restaurant, where creole cooking (*la comida criolla*) is the house specialty, thus creating a singular ambience which combines dance, music and flavors. La Dama Juana offers a buffet dinner with live show that mixes the principal dances from the different regions of Peru.

Return to ESTELAR HOTEL.

Check out time at the hotel is at noon. Bags may be kept in hotel storage. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure in Lima.

Transportation service will pick you up from your hotel at the established time and will transfer you to the airport of Lima for your departure.

NOTE: Participants continuing on to the Main Tour will remain at ESTELAR HOTEL for overnight.

*** END OF PRE-TOUR***

NOT INCLUDED:

- Airport taxes (payable only in cash).
- Personal expenses such as laundry, phone call, internet access.
- Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages during meals.
- Some meals (as indicated).
- Tips for guides and drivers.
- Any services not mentioned in the program.
- Travel Insurance.