Peru: Machu Picchu Ecotour
IMPORTANT NOTICE

This tour is currently unavailable. Please call or visit our website for our upcoming adventures.

See Our Tours >

Or Call: 877-587-8479
Explore Machu Picchu twice: in the early misty morning and in the afternoon, the least busy time of day.

Enjoy the scenic ride of the Vistadome Train, which offers panoramic views of the Andes Mountains and countryside.

Stay at some of the most unique hotels in Peru and enjoy fantastic local cuisine, including two picnics in the Andes.

Tour the city of Cusco and walk through the famous San Pedro Market full of local culture, delicacies, and oddities—great for gift shopping!

Visit a small town bordered by mountains and glaciers, and see a world that remains relatively unchanged since its Incan settlement.

Discover the Sacred Valley of the Incas and experience a haven for natural beauty, unique culture, and plenty of archeological ruins.
**Dates for Instagram Special**

- **September 3-9, 2016**
- **$2,850 Per Person | Single Supplement of $310 Per Person**
- **What’s Included:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LODGING</th>
<th>Six (6) nights at stunning hotels and ecolodges (includes three (3) nights at the Sonesta Posadas del Inca Yucay, one (1) night at Inkaterra: Machu Picchu, two(2) nights Costa del Sol)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GUIDES</td>
<td>All exciting tours with your Peruvian guide. *A Gondwana trip leader will also be included for groups of more than six (6).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACTIVITIES</td>
<td>Includes but not limited to, two (2) tours of Machu Picchu, market visits, a tour of Awanacancha, a tour of Pisaq, a tour of the Maras salt flats, a tour of Moray, a visit to the archeological site at Ollataytambo, a tour of Patacancha, and a city tour of Cusco.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRANSPORTATION</td>
<td>A roundtrip on the Vistadome Train to Machu Picchu. Secure transportation in a private van on all of your tours including airport transfers—your safety and comfort always come first!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEALS</td>
<td>Six (6) delicious breakfasts, five (5) lunches, and one (1) dinner.</td>
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**Trip Capacity of 16 Persons**
Trip Details for Custom Dates

- Custom dates are available for individuals, couples, families, and groups
- Luxurious Package: 1 Person = $4,827 | 2-4 Persons = $3,675 | 5-6 Persons = $3,433 | 7-10 Persons = $3,286 | 11-16 Persons = $3,238
- Charming Package: 1 Person = $4,190 | 2-4 Persons = $3,092 | 4-6 Persons = $2,850 | 7-10 Persons = $2,704 | 11-16 Persons = $2,656

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<tr>
<td>LODGING</td>
<td>Six (6) nights at stunning hotels and ecolodges from the Luxurious Package or the Charming Package.</td>
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Luxurious Package Single Supplement = $840
Charming Package Single Supplement = $301
Peru At a Glance
Mashed potatoes, French fries and chips – all of your favorite snacks owe their origin to Peru. This is where the humble potato was first domesticated. When the Spanish conquistadors conquered the Inca Empire, the first thing they exported to Europe was the potato, where it was quickly adopted as a cheap, easy to grow food crop.

Guinea Pigs may be adorable, docile pets in the US, but in Peru, they are an important source of food and feature heavily in Peruvian folklore. Don’t be surprised if you see Guinea Pig meat (called cuy locally) on sale in Peruvian restaurants!

Peru has three official languages—Spanish, Quechua and Aymara. Both Quechua and Aymara were derived from ancient Incan languages. Today, roughly 84% of the population speaks Spanish, 13% speaks Quechua, while just 1.7% speaks Aymara.
History Meets Adventure: Discovering Machu Picchu

Hiram Bingham, a leader of a Yale University expedition, made Machu Picchu known to the world while on a search for another famed Incan city. One day, a local told him of older, more important Incan ruins, and, thus, Bingham commenced the steep climb covered with dense jungle vegetation. Once at the top of the slope, a young child from a village nearby took him to an old city wrapped in tropical flora. That day, July 24, 1911, Bingham wrote in his journal, “…would anyone believe what I have found?”.

Did you know?

Machu Picchu is a Quechua word meaning “older peak”. Its younger counterpart, Huayna Picchu, means “smaller peak”.

Map of Peru
How do I know which meals are included?

Great question! Refer to the legend below when viewing each day of the itinerary:

B=Breakfast
L=Lunch
**Arrival in Cusco & Potential Visit of Awanacancha**

Upon arrival, your guide will greet you at the airport with the Gondwana sign, and transfer you to your hotel in the Sacred Valley of the Incas. Depending on the time of arrival we’ll head to Awanacancha, a llama petting farm where we encounter llamas, alpacas, vicuñas and guanacos. Besides learning about these animals, we’ll also learn about traditional weaving methods. Lunch is included and will be at Casa Hacienda Huayoccari. Time and energy permitting, we will spend some time in the market of Pisaq.

**Visit to Maras Salt Flats and Moray Ruins**

After breakfast we will walk between 2 to 4 hours in front of the Andes Mountains and then visit the Maras salt flats: a place where ancient technology is still used for the extraction of salt from the mountain. Next, we will visit the Moray ruins, which used to be an agricultural experimental center for the Incas. Lunch is included and will consist of a lovely picnic in front of the Andes Mountains. Our chef will bring fresh food from Cusco.

**Full Day visit to Ollantaytambo Ruins + the Andean Community of Patacancha**

We’ll begin the day with a visit the agricultural terraces and ruins of Pachacuti’s royal estate at Ollantaytambo. Then we’ll drive to the village of Patacancha. Tucked in the mountains, this town stays cold because of the nearby Andes Glacier. There, we will visit a local school and take an optional hike through a world that is nearly unchanged since its Incan settlement. Lunch will be a lovely gourmet picnic, provided by our chef, who will bring fresh food from Cusco.
Train ride to Machu Picchu + Afternoon Visit to the Ruins

We will take a Vistadome Train through the countryside to the town of Machu Picchu. We will have lunch at Inkaterra Hotel, and then head to the ruins of Machu Picchu for an afternoon visit (when it is the most quiet). Dinner will be at the award-winning, luxurious Inkaterra Hotel.

Optional hike to Machu Picchu Mountain or visit to the Gardens at the Hotel

We invite you to an optional second visit to the Machu Picchu ruins. This hike brings us to the summit of Machu Picchu Mountain, which provides a vista above the ruins. As an alternative, we can arrange a visit to the beautiful gardens at the hotel. Lunch will be at the Indio Feliz Restaurant. In the afternoon we will return to Cusco via the Vistadome Train.

“Gondwana brings more joy, fun, smile, laugh and awareness to our travel experience! One of my favorite ways to see the world!”

–Edmond Tsang
**City tour of Cusco**

In the morning we will visit Sacsayhuaman, a nearly 1,000 year-old citadel. With its Cyclopean Inca construction and mind-blowing views of Cusco City, it’s a great way to have one foot in the past and one in the present. Next, we will visit Coricancha: the Temple of the Sun. In the afternoon, experience the San Pedro Market in the afternoon, where you come face to face with the essence of local life. Lastly, we will explore Cusco Cathedral: a jewel bursting with exquisite local art and tradition.

“If you want to broaden your horizons and go to exotic places all while feeling taken care of and in good hands, I recommend Gondwana Ecotours.”

–Jena Frederick

**Transfer to the Airport of Cusco**

We will take you to the Airport of Cusco for your scheduled flight to Lima and connections and wish you farewell!
Accommodations

Photo Courtesy of Hotel Soly Luna
Inkaterra: Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel

Inkaterra's Machu Picchu lodge, nestled in the cloud forest below the Incan ruins, is a welcoming, sustainability-focused hotel a short bus ride from the famed archaeological site. The 85 whitewashed, red-roofed cottages are scattered around 12 lush acres, connected by stone pathways, and set among waterfalls, hummingbirds, and an orchid garden with 372 different native species.

Inkaterra: La Casona Cusco Hotel

Inkaterra La Casona is a colonial manor house—perhaps the first Spanish construction in Cusco—centrally located on an Incan settlement near Cusco's present-day main square, later occupied by the conquistadores of Peru and their descendants. Eleven suites surround a sumptuous courtyard, where the patina of time is tastefully preserved. Contemporary amenities create the ambience of comfort and exclusivity enjoyed by residents in centuries past.
**Sonesta Posadas del Inca Yucay**

Sonesta Posadas del Inca Yucay offers guests a unique experience in the heart of the Sacred Valley. Complete with laundry service and a comfortable bed, this hotel will surely steal your heart. Comfortable work stations make checking your email accessible and cozy a restaurant and bar make it the perfect way to unwind after a day of hiking!

**El MaPi by Inkaterra**

Inkaterra has pioneered eco-development in Peru since 1975, and is currently renowned as a world leader in sustainable development. To underscore cultural and natural virtues, the brand works under a holistic approach that generates added value in rural areas: it encourages scientific research, whilst contributing to biodiversity conservation, education and the economic growth of local communities. The cozy rooms and trendy restaurant and bar area will give you a chance to relax after a full day of exploring Machu Picchu.

**Costa del Sol Ramada Cusco**

Costa del Sol Ramada Cusco is the perfect place to spend your last days in Peru. Located in a colonial mansion considered part of the cultural heritage of the city of Cusco. The building dates from the seventeenth century, when the Marquis de Picoaga came to town and built this new house using stone and murals. This 4-star hotel has 90 rooms with amenities for a pleasant, relaxing and unforgettable stay. With a combined architecture between colonial and contemporary, with stone arches, beautiful courtyard with fountain and original murals.
Your Guide
Meet Juan Carlos

Born and raised in Cusco, Peru, Juan Carlos has been leading trips and guiding people through his home for over 15 years. Over the last decade he has specialized in guiding groups to Machu Picchu and beyond. He has led over 60 excursions on the Inca Trail and is a fount of knowledge about the local geography, history, and culture. When not guiding in Cusco, Juan Carlos leads trips throughout the Latin America and Asia.

What’s the difference between a Guide and Gondwana Trip Leader?

A Guide is your window into the destination. Always a local, your guide gives insight to the culture, region, and ecosystems. We bring a Gondwana trip leader in addition to a guide for groups of six or more to retain the personal attention that we are known for.
Getting There and Back

**When should I arrive in Cusco?**

You should arrive at Cusco International Airport (Alejandro Velasco Astete International Airport) as early as possible, ideally taking the early morning flight from Lima.

**What do I need to do to prepare for my arrival and journey?**

Send us your flight itinerary and your guide, Juan Carlos, will be waiting for you at the airport with a sign with your name on it or the Gondwana Ecotours logo.

**What if I want to explore Cusco before my journey with Gondwana Ecotours?**

If you decide to come to Cusco before the ecotour starts, you will need to arrange transportation to our lodging on the first day of the ecotour, but we can provide assistance upon request.

**What should I do in preparation for my departure?**

Nothing! At the end of our journey, we will accommodate and transport you back to the Cusco International Airport (Alejandro Velasco Astete International Airport) any time on the last day of your ecotour.

**What if I want to stay longer in Cusco or Peru?**

For those of you who will be staying longer, feel free to ask us for help! An extension option to tour the famous Amazon Rainforest and Galapagos Islands is available; if you are interested please ask us for more details.

**Is it easy to find a direct flight to Peru?**

Yes! New York (Newark), Atlanta, Miami, Houston, Los Angeles, Mexico and Toronto have direct flights to Lima.
Why Travel with Us

Our promise is to design handcrafted travel experiences that enrich your mind, body and soul. We strive to put our values into practice with every ecotour that we create.

**Wonder**  Our adventures are filled with wonder that amaze, enlighten and deeply connect you to the region.

**Flexibility**  There are many opportunities throughout the tour for you to customize your vacation with a variety of day excursions.

**Local Guides**  Enjoy the unsurpassable experience of local guides who share their country, culture and customs.

**Trip Leader**  A Gondwana Trip Leader is sent to take care of the details for groups of six or more, leaving you to fully relax and enjoy the experience.

**Donations**  A portion of the proceeds goes to a local non-profit in Peru.

**Carbon Offset**  We carbon offset your airfare—good for your conscience and good for our planet.

**Low-Impact**  Our ecotours leave a small impression on the environment because of the small group size of 14 and the activities.

**Unique Lodging**  Feel the heart of the destination by staying at a boutique hotel that is whenever possible locally-owned and eco-friendly.
Thank You

Put down your $500 deposit and receive:

- A detailed packing list
- Our Pre-Trip Guide
- Booking Terms & Policies (the first deposit is refundable for 30 days)

Our team at Gondwana appreciates your interest in our handcrafted travel experiences. If you have any other questions about our Ecotours or would like to place your deposit, please call us toll free:

1 (877) 587-8479

or contact us via email:

info@GondwanaEcotours.com

Thank you for your interest and we look forward to seeing you in Ecuador!

www.GondwanaEcotours.com

*Details of the ecotours are subject to change based on weather and availability.*