Abercrombie & Kent



PERU IN DEPTH

Some of the world’s most astonishing attractions await within Peru. From the modern culinary hub of Lima to the rainforest wonders of the Amazon.

Tailor-Made Journeys, Suggested Itineraries

Latin America, Peru

14 days from AU$12,980 pp

Private

Journey Overview

Peru conceals some of the world's most astonishing attractions: from the modern culinary hub of Lima to the rainforest wonders of the Amazon; Incan treasure and the ruins of Machu Picchu plus the altiplano landscapes and islands of Lake Titicaca. Wherever you find yourself, there are unique hotels, welcoming locals, world class food and all delivered in customary A&K style.

Journey Highlights

- Discover the mysteries of Machu Picchu, the lost city of the Incas
- Experience the colonial splendour and indigenous culture of Cusco, capital of the Incan empire
- Roam high above the Amazon rainforest on a canopy walkway, 30 metres above the ground
- Taste the real Peru in an intimate cooking lesson



Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive Lima

Welcome to the City of Kings. Perched on cliffs by the Pacific Ocean, Lima enjoys wide acclaim on the world food scene. Receive a warm welcome by your A&K representative and transfer to your boutique hotel in the Barranco neighbourhood. Spend time orientating yourself with a leisurely walk in the bohemian art district, which promises history, colour, and culture at every turn.

Hotel B

Day 2: Lima

Taste the real Peru with a revealing culinary experience. Take a trip to the local market to source fresh ingredients, and with a pisco sour in hand, you'll become sous chef for the morning as a local chef shares Lima's classic recipes. After enjoying the spoils of your labour, unlock the secrets of the "City of Kings" on a walking tour led by a local expert. Get the key to one of South America's oldest colonial houses, Casa Aliaga dating back to the founding of Lima in 1535, among hidden courtyards and ramshackle rooftops. Stand in Lima's birthplace, Plaza Mayor, and admire architectural masterpieces including the historic cathedral, grand presidential palace and Santo Domingo Convent.

Hotel B | Meals: BL

Day 3: Lima

Lose yourself this morning amongst more than 45,000 classified pre-Columbian archaeological objects in the fascinating and intriguing Larco Museum, a one-time private mansion and one of the city's best museums. Then, embark on your own treasure hunt through the city, discover Lima's emerging art scene or find something closer to home during your time at leisure.

Hotel B | Meals: B

Day 4: Lima – Amazon

Begin with a private transfer to the airport for your flight east to Puerto Maldonado, on the banks of the Madre de Dios River, a tributary of the Amazon near the borders with Bolivia and Brazil. Cruise slowly by boat through enchanting rainforest to arrive at your eco-luxury lodge. Drop your bags and spend the afternoon exploring the trails winding through the surrounding rainforest. Spend time with one of the naturalists to discover the selection of included shared excursions on offer during your stay. The hotel also serves as a research centre, and no fewer than 540 bird species have been spotted in its grounds. Later, opt for the twilight boat tour and watch as animals and birds of the day give way to species of the night.

Inkaterra Reserva Amazonica | Meals: BLD

Day 5: Amazon

Rise early to enjoy nature at its fullest. Choose to visit Lake Sandoval in the Tambopata National Reserve. Glide in a wooden canoe across a beautiful, mirror-like oxbow lake, home to the endangered giant river otter, as well as red howler monkeys, red-bellied macaws, side-neck turtles and black caimans. Later, the remarkable Inkaterra Canopy Walkway beckons. High above the forest floor, you'll discover the perfect lookout for bright toucans, woodpeckers, trogons, monkeys and the three-toed sloth. Return to earth to explore an utterly different ecosystem on the Anaconda Walk over the Aguajales swamps.

Inkaterra Reserva Amazonica | Meals: BLD

Day 6: Amazon – Cusco – Sacred Valley

Return along the Madre de Dios River to Puerto Maldonado and head to the Butterfly House, a garden fluttering with rare species. Transfer to the airport for your flight to Cusco and onwards by car to the Sacred Valley of the Incas (2,900 metres). It is difficult to imagine anywhere better to soak up the tranquillity of the mountain-ringed valley than your luxury property. Take time to acclimatise the local way – with rest and coca tea.

Inkaterra Hacienda Urubamba | Meals: BD

Day 7: Sacred Valley

Once the epicentre of the Inca Empire, the Sacred Valley is speckled with little-known but spectacular ruins, many of which remain unexplored. Visit a remote village seemingly frozen in time. Experience complete cultural immersion as you delve into the ancient agricultural methods used for centuries in this challenging Andean mountain environment. Join in the daily activities and discover how local communities live today. Learn how vibrant food is being cooked in wood-fired, mud-brick stoves. Watch a demonstration of age-old textile artistry and uncover secrets to natural dyeing. Return to your lodge and spend your afternoon at leisure, enjoying the amenities of your accommodation before dinner.

Inkaterra Hacienda Urubamba | Meals: BLD

Day 8: Sacred Valley – Ollantaytambo – Machu Picchu

Begin your pilgrimage to Machu Picchu (2,400 metres), stopping en route at the imposing fortress of Ollantaytambo, where the Incas celebrated their greatest victory over the invading Spanish. Board the train and sit back and relax and absorb the majestic Andean landscape as you wind through the mountains and cloud forest to the lost city of Machu Picchu. Overlooking the raging Urubamba River and discovered by American explorer Hiram Bingham in a hidden tangle of trees, the true history of Machu Picchu will forever remain an enigma, as the Incas left no written records. Unravel its mysteries as you explore with your expert guide. Return to your hotel, an intimate styled Andean village with terraced hills, waterfalls, stone pathways. Relax in a hidden corner or indulge in an invigorating spa based on a mystical Andean approach.

Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo | Meals: BLD

Day 9: Machu Picchu – Ollantaytambo – Cusco

Spend time exploring the natural beauty of your lodge, seek out the more than 200 species of birds or delve deeper into the mysteries of the ancient citadel with the opportunity to climb to the “Inti Punku”, the famous Sun Gate. Or, for superior views across the ruins, hike further to the highest mountain, Huayna Picchu, or continue a leisurely tour of the rambling stone terraces. Later board the Vistadome train to Ollantaytambo and continue by road to Cusco, the former ancient capital of the Inca Empire.

La Casona Inkaterra | Meals: B

Day 10: Cusco

Sitting at an altitude of 3,400 metres, Cusco’s rich tapestry of Spanish and Quechua influences is yours to uncover this morning on foot. Considered to be one of the most beautiful churches in the Americas, the cathedral in the central Plaza de Armas will leave you breathless. Seek out the fresco of ‘The Last Supper’ with Jesus eating guinea pig, a sacred motif of Incan paganism. Explore the well-preserved ruins of Sacsayhuaman, a testament to Incan architectural skill. Compiled of massive stones, the walls were cut and placed together with incredible precision and without a single drop of mortar to hold them in place. This ancient fortress, where the greatest battle between the Spanish and Incas took place, overlooks the red-tiled roofs of Cusco and the spectacular lush countryside.

La Casona Inkaterra | Meals: B

Day 11: Cusco

Appreciate a day at leisure. Stroll the cobblestone plazas and winding alleyways, or search for treasures in one of the fascinating markets that dot the city. Alternatively take the hike to the statue of Christ at the top of the valley overlooking Cusco and soak in the breathtaking views of the entire city below. Late afternoon accompanied by your Guardian Angel, take a private tour of your historic boutique accommodation. Learn about the restoration process that brought this colonial building back to its original glory and stories from the manor's long past. Later join a local shaman for a unique coca leaf reading. The coca leaf is integral to Andean life besides being used in celebration ceremonies, funerals, labour, and religious practices, among other occasions.

La Casona Inkaterra | Meals: B

Day 12: Cusco – Juliaca – Lake Titicaca

Private transfer to Cusco airport for your flight to Juliaca and be met on arrival by a representative of the hotel. Proceed to Puno, situated between the mountains and the shores of Lake Titicaca, the world's highest navigable lake. Journey onwards to your luxury lodge set on a secluded private peninsula, and en route stop at Sillustani, the region’s largest and most important pre-Hispanic funeral grounds. Settle in and soak up the exceptional views from your lake facing room, the ultimate place for discovering this mystical land and birthplace of the Incan civilisation.

Titilaka | Meals: BLD

Day 13: Lake Titicaca

Tucked between snow-capped mountains along the border of Bolivia and Peru, Lake Titicaca is not only the world's highest navigable lake at 3,812 metres, it's also one of the most beautiful. And there are endless ways to explore. Shared excursion options include day trips to the Uros floating islands and the Island of Taquile, trekking along the Colla Route, part of the original network of Incan roadways to the market, birdwatching with specialists, visits to colonial temples, and more. After a day exploring, there's no better place to re-energise than back at your lodge surrounded by the astounding Andean terrain.

Titilaka | Meals: BLD

Day 14: Lake Titicaca – Depart Puno

Return transfer to Puno's Juliaca airport and en route stop and see Lampa, a colonial-period architectural gem and previous Spanish colonial stronghold. Arrival at the airport where your journey ends. Alternatively travel across the border into Bolivia and appreciate another part of Lake Titicaca.

Meals: B

Map


PERU
BRAZIL
Lima
Machu Picchu
Sacred Valley
Cusco
Puerto Maldonado
PACIFIC OCEAN
LAKE TITICACA
Puno
ARRIVE/DEPART
AIR
ROAD
RAIL

Accommodation

Hotel B, Lima



Located in the heart of Barranco, Lima's bohemian art district, and surrounded by galleries and fashion boutiques, is one of Lima's newest and most elegant hotels, Hotel B. Branching away from the usual high-rise 'business' hotel on offer in Lima, Hotel B is a very welcome new style of hotel in the city aiming to cater for clientele wanting luxury and excellent service whilst also gaining an insight into both Lima's past opulence and up-and-coming future. Originally designed by the French architect Claude Sahut (designer of Lima's Government Palace), this pristine example of a Belle Epoque mansion has been lovingly brought back to life 'with a cheeky twist' of designer furniture, to proudly offer 17 suites, El Comedor Restaurant, living room and a library housing a fine collection of Peruvian maps, prints and books. A highlight is the roof-top lounge serving excellent evening cocktails and views over the roof-tops to the Pacific Ocean.

Why we like it

- Lima's first arts-boutique hotel, renovated from a colonial mansion and reflecting the glamour of the 1920s.
- Ideally located in the heart of a bohemian revival neighbourhood, housing a unique collection of its own.
- Aims to offer a feeling of restored 'Grand Dame' integrating vintage and designer furniture with soft colours, grand windows and tall ceilings.

- The Living Room, Library and Terrace offer the calm space that is so often essential, yet missing, in city centre hotels.
- Enjoy a traditional 'lonche' in the evening in El Comedor Restaurant. El 'lonche' developed in the early republican days. Society would gather at the end of the day to play, drink and converse while exchanging their secret recipes. The gathering became important within the political, social and culinary circles; the excuse was to enjoy exquisite nibbles. A variety of fresh herbs and infusions, coffee or hot chocolate served with open sandwiches, fresh fruit cuts and typical Lima biscuits.

Inkaterra Reserva Amazonica



Inspired by native Amazon design, Reserva Amazonica offers 30 thatched roof cabañas - all combining natural materials with contemporary amenities and built in the native Machiguenga and Ese'Eja style.

Four cabaña options are available - each individually decorated in an elegant, rustic style to create the most luxurious lodges in the Amazon. The Reserva is the place to go for an authentic, safe and comfortable stay in the biodiversity capital of Peru, where a single giant tree is home to more insect species than in the whole of the UK.

Why we like it

- The Inkaterra Reserva Amazonica Lodge is located in a private ecological reserve and research centre of 10,000 hectares
- The ENA Spa combines classic treatments with exotic ingredients
- Other facilities include casual conversation areas, a bar, a gift shop, an upstairs loft and balconies for bird watching and stargazing
- Inkaterra Reserva Amazonica is a family-oriented lodge, and offers a wide range of facilities and activities for children
- We recommend the Tambopata Suites for their private terraces, plunge pools, outdoor rain showers and personal airport escorts

Inkaterra Hacienda Urubamba



Built in the heart of the Urubamba Valley, among the flowers and trees that carpet the mountainous region, Inkaterra Urubamba has been designed with the architecture of the Cusco region in mind. Local life is also reflected in the kitchen, with alpaca steaks, river trout, lamb and guinea pig bred at Inkaterra's own organic homestead near that quite well-known ruin, Macchu Pichu. From the arrival drinks (pisco sours, Peruvian beers made from quinoa, wheat and maize, or chilled purple corn) to the vegetable garden, it's unlikely you'll go hungry. You can work off the indulgence in the 14-acre grounds or roam further afield with one of the hotel's ecological guides.

Each room is designed as a calm retreat to return to after a busy day of exploring, with warm fireplaces for the colder mountain nights, terraces for panoramic views, dining areas for private meals, and a living area to take some time out. VIP treatment comes as standard so take an extra day just to enjoy the calm of your private palace.

Why we like it

- Nothing but awe-inspiring views over the Sacred Valley
- Modern design with colonial inspiration, set in an iconic Peruvian valley
- The 10 acre organic plantation affords the freshest produce: you can pick your own vegetables for dinner
- Experience a multitude of activities, including horse riding, bird watching and star gazing
- The hacienda has its own llamas for riding in the valley

Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo



Located just a short shuttle ride from the entrance to Machu Picchu, the lodge serves as an excellent base from which to explore. Skilled artisans built the 85-room hotel using stone, adobe stucco and eucalyptus beams to create a delightful Andean village ambience.

Rooms are large, well equipped and located in one or two-storey whitewashed cottages, reached via stone pathways weaving their way through the tropical gardens. All the rooms and villas feature thick alpaca blankets and handmade wool coverlets, crackling fireplaces and comfortable spaces for sitting and dining, as well as spa-style bathrooms.

This hotel creates an authentic Andean ambience and offers a rare slice of barefoot luxury in this ancient location.

Why we like it

- Some suites and villas have private terraces with plunge pools
- Inkaterra Machu Picchu is located in a five-hectare cloud forest garden alongside the Vilcanota River and on the edge of the village of Aguas Calientes
- A first-class restaurant boasts stunning views of the rushing Vilcanota River from an outdoor terrace
- The hotel's UNU Spa is one of a kind, offering treatments based on a combination of classical options with a mystical Andean approach
- Other facilities include Café Inkaterra, a bar and gift shop

Titilaka



Titilaka is a striking modern lodge, offering a luxurious refuge from which to explore the national, cultural and historical treasures of this remote and mystical region.

Eighteen fully serviced suites with magnificent views of the lake feature under floor heating, iPods, portable oxygen tanks and excellent bathrooms with oversized bathtubs and massage showers. Contemporary lines and earthy colours reflect the peaceful and simple life of the surrounding area.

The communal areas combine modern architecture with indigenous touches - for instance integrating the vital elements of fire, air, water and earth into the cosy lounge, dining room and bar with wraparound terraces overlooking the lake.

Why we like it

- All rooms have wonderful views of the immense lake, long sacred to the people of the Andes, whose waters seem to glow soft orange at sunrise and sunset
- Titilaka stands on a secluded private peninsula 45 minutes from Puno, on the shores of Lake Titicaca
- The restaurant serves contemporary Peruvian dishes using fresh local ingredients
- Other facilities include four acres of grounds and two beaches, wrap-around terraces, an overwater deck and boardwalks, a fully equipped media and reading room, and a small jetty or landing dock. The hotel offers a wide range of guided excursions (hiking, mountain biking, kayaking and sailing)

Abercrombie & Kent

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