

TRAVELER

EXCLUSIVELY *for* ANDREW HARPER MEMBERS

Andrew Harper 

ISSUE NO. 1 / 2024

PERU

*Machu
Picchu
and so
much more*

It would be understandable to assume that after seeing Machu Picchu, one might as well fly home. But Peru has myriad fascinating and stunningly scenic attractions set in widely varying environments, ranging

from high-altitude valleys sculpted by centuries-old terraces to unique floating islands in otherworldly Lake Titicaca. This itinerary is a worthy template for a first-time visit to Peru, and for those who have been before, it surely holds a surprise or two.

OPPOSITE: INCA WALL, SACSAYHUAMÁN





LIMA

1

2 NIGHTS LIMA

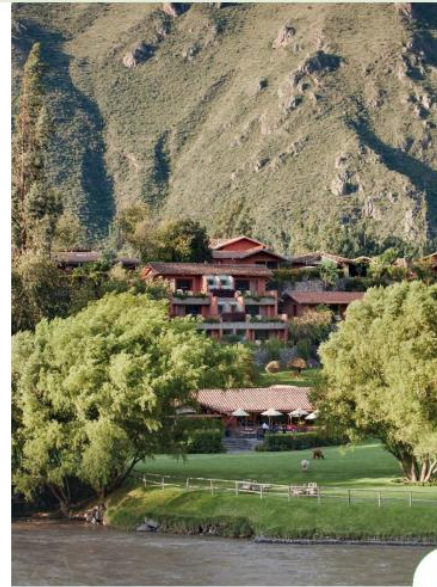
STAY Arrive in Lima and transfer to your hotel of choice, either Belmond's sea-view Miraflores Park, set in a glass tower, or the art-rich boutique Hotel B, occupying a Belle Epoque mansion.



MAIDO

DINE One of the main reasons to travel to Lima these days is to eat; visitors often stay an extra day or two simply to dine at acclaimed venues such as Maido, where chef Mitsuharu "Micha" Tsumura takes diners on a journey through more than a dozen plates, transforming ingredients like rockfish, pork belly and even guinea pig into works of art.

EXPLORE Spend at least one day in Lima, though more would be rewarding. The city has several impressive museums, such as the MAC Lima, dedicated to Latin American contemporary art, and the Museo Larco, boasting one of the world's largest collections of pre-Columbian art.



RIO SAGRADO, A BELMOND HOTEL

2

2 NIGHTS SACRED VALLEY

STAY Fly from Lima to Cusco and transfer by private car about 45 minutes northwest into the Sacred Valley, the heartland of the Inca. We have several recommended properties there: Explora Machu Picchu & Sacred Valley, best suited to active travelers who enjoy hiking; Sol y Luna, a colorful property with lush gardens and excellent restaurants; or Belmond's Rio Sagrado, which offers a notably high level of service. After arriving in the late afternoon, settle in and relax, perhaps enjoying a spa treatment before dinner.

DINE One of Peru's most exciting restaurants is located near the Moray

terraces. Opened in 2018 by star chef Virgilio Martinez Veliz of Central, Mil is both a restaurant and a research center dedicated to preserving the rich variety of indigenous Peruvian agricultural products.

EXPLORE Spend at least two days in the Sacred Valley to explore its incredible wealth of sights. Take one day to visit the spectacular salt pans of Maras and the experimental agricultural terraces of Moray and another day to visit Ollantaytambo. A third day that includes Chinchero, with its artisan craft market and a 17th-century church built atop an Inca palace, would not be wasted.



MORAY TERRACES



This is a sample itinerary designed to inspire your travels. Contact the Andrew Harper Travel Office to customize your own journey.



MACHU PICCHU

3

1 NIGHT (OR A DAY TRIP)

MACHU PICCHU

DINE + EXPLORE Travel to and from this iconic ruined city aboard Belmond's *Hiram Bingham* train. It takes about three and a half hours to travel between Poroy station just outside Cusco and Aguas Calientes at the base of the ruins. When not dining on a multicourse lunch, guests can enjoy live music and (included) drinks in the bar car.

STAY In order to see the city at sunrise and/or to hike Huayna Picchu (a sugarloaf mountain overlooking the site), spend the night at Machu Picchu Sanctuary Lodge, the only hotel adjacent to the ruins. Return to Cusco on the *Hiram Bingham*, having a gourmet dinner on board (and maybe another pisco sour or two in the convivial bar car).



BAR CAR, *HIRAM BINGHAM*



4

INKATERRA LA CASONA

3 NIGHTS

CUSCO

STAY After transferring to Cusco, check into Belmond's Palacio Nazarenas, with 55 suites in a former convent and palace. Alternatively, across the square is Inkaterra La Casona, a delightful 11-room hideaway in a thoughtfully updated mansion.

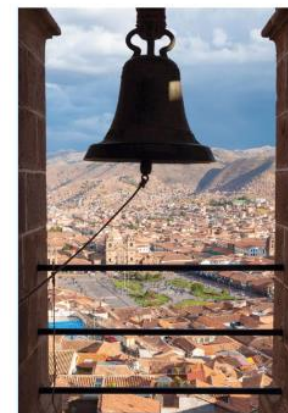
DINE Limo restaurant, known for its Peruvian fusion, is where local ingredients meet Asian inspiration. The restaurant is situated in a colonial mansion with a magnificent view of Cusco's main square.

EXPLORE Make an excursion into the less-visited Valle del Sur, southeast of Cusco. Start at Tipón, which has a series of terraces notable for their still-functioning Inca water channels



ANDEAN WEAVER

and panoramic valley views. Nearby is Pikillaqta, a surprisingly vast Wari city destroyed (but never resettled) by the Inca. Its impressively tall ruins and oddly claustrophobic streets feel haunted to this day. Continue on to Andahuayllillas, a town known for its spectacularly colorful 16th-century church, and perhaps a bit farther to Huaró, which has a similarly elaborate church that has yet to be restored. Back in Cusco, pay a visit to the Coricancha, a former temple to the sun god and the most important religious site in the Inca Empire. A church now stands atop (and amid) the temple's original stonework. Climb the bell tower for magnificent views of the city.



VIEW OF CUSCO FROM THE TOWER OF SAN CRISTOBAL CHURCH



AREQUIPA AND MISTI VOLCANO

5

3 NIGHTS

AREQUIPA

STAY Fly from Cusco to Arequipa and check into CIRQA, a contemporary hotel occupying a historic white-stone building a short walk from the Plaza de Armas, the heart of the historic center.

DINE Dinner in the hotel's romantic restaurant is certainly a good idea, but Arequipa has no shortage of excellent dining options. Fashionable Mumis serves tasty Italian-Peruvian fusion dishes.

EXPLORE Take a half day for a guided walking tour of Arequipa, a beautiful colonial city that rivals Cusco

in charm (but draws far fewer tourists). Start perhaps with the ornate church of La Compañía, noted for its brightly painted San Ignacio Chapel and rather Moorish-looking cloisters, now home to cafés and boutiques. Stroll through the San Camilo Market, still geared toward local shoppers, with gaudy stacks of produce and various other wares for sale. Finish in the sprawling Santa Catalina Monastery, a functioning colonial-era convent painted in saturated orange and sky-blue tones, now open to visitors. It's surely only a matter of time before the Instagram hordes discover how photogenic it is at every turn.



CIRQA



CIRQA



CONDOR, COLCA CANYON

DETOUR If time allows, consider a two-night stay near Colca Canyon at Belmond's Las Casitas, where your Travel Advisor will arrange a "Breakfast in Tapay" excursion involving a private chef-prepared breakfast at the scenic Tapay viewpoint, where condors soar on thermals up out of the dramatic canyon.



TITILAKA

6



BOAT TOUR, TITILAKA



SUN GATE, BOLIVIA

2 NIGHTS LAKE TITICACA

STAY From Arequipa, embark on a scenic guided drive to Lake Titicaca, stopping along the way to see the otherworldly rock formations at Salinas and Aguada Blanca Reserve. Check in to Titilaka, a singular hotel that resides in an enchanting, end-of-the-world setting on Lake Titicaca.

DINE The hotel's open-plan timbered dining room with floor-to-ceiling windows serves light Peruvian dishes, and a comfortable sitting area provides the venue for convivial house cocktail parties.

EXPLORE Numerous half- and full-day guided excursions can be arranged, including boat cruises and cycling outings through the fields of Platería, as well as day trips across the Bolivia border to see the sacred Intihuatana stone and the famous Sun Gate. At the hotel, enjoy two private beaches, a massage room and a well-equipped boathouse offering kayaks and rowboats. Fly back to Lima from the tiny airport in Juliaca. [AHI](#)

BELMOND PERU

LIMA, CUSCO, MACHU PICCHU, SACRED VALLEY, COLCA CANYON, AREQUIPA & LAKE TITICACA

Experience the extraordinary with Belmond's collection of unparalleled travel adventures across Peru. Discover six exquisite hotels, two iconic trains and an array of bespoke excursions among the country's most breathtaking landscapes. Combine scenic beauty and mysticism on an adventure to Machu Picchu. Take the luxurious *Hiram Bingham* train to the Inca citadel and stay at **Sanctuary Lodge**, the only hotel located next to the ruins. Reconnect with nature in the Sacred Valley at **Rio Sagrado** or plunge into Cusco's captivating history at our sister hotels, **Monasterio** and **Palacio Nazarenas**. Board the magnificent *Andean Explorer* for a rail odyssey to Lake Titicaca and Arequipa, or escape to the tranquil haven of **Las Casitas** in the spectacular Colca Canyon. When the capital calls, **Miraflores Park** in Lima brims with cosmopolitan charm. This all-suite oceanfront retreat is the perfect base for exploring the vibrant city.



2024

MEMBER BENEFITS

- \$100 hotel credit for guest rooms; \$220 hotel credit for suites, varies by suite type
- Daily à la carte breakfast for two
- Upgrade at time of check-in, subject to availability
- Bookings of \$10,000 or more earn a \$500 gift voucher toward future Belmond travel, terms and conditions apply

BELMOND

» TRAVEL ADVISOR PROFILE



Fun fact

On the airport transfer from Cusco to the Sacred Valley, you can stop at an alpaca farm, Sulca Textile Center, to have coca tea while learning to make a *quipu* with the locals. This was the accounting system of the Inca people, which was used for collecting data, keeping records, etc.

Plan your journey to Peru with Andrew Harper Travel Advisor

SABEENA WHITE



Sabeena has over 30 years of domestic and international travel experience and a passion for travel! She's adept at communicating, listening to the members' needs and working with our highly preferred vendors to provide world-class customer service. This inherent skill and her extensive travel knowledge help create memorable trips for Andrew Harper members.

CONTACT SABEENA AT
(800) 375-4685
RESERVATIONS@ANDREWHARPER.COM

Sabeena's travel tips

WHEN TO VISIT

Plan to go during the dry season, between May and October, to truly maximize your experience.

BEFORE YOU GO

I recommend walking for 20 to 30 minutes a day and doing breathing exercises at least one to two months before your trip; this will help with the various elevation levels on your visit.

WHEN TO PLAN

As soon as you have your dates in mind, check out AndrewHarper.com for our sample itineraries with highlights on things to do and see during your visit. Then give me a call and we can customize your adventure.

WHAT TO PACK

Reusable water bottle (nonreusable plastic containers are prohibited in tourist spaces to protect Peru's environment

and preserve wildlife), cap or hat, camera, trekking shoes, insect repellent, sunblock, passport, sunglasses and raincoat if visiting during November to March.

WHAT NOT TO MISS

Dine at Central, one of the top restaurants in the world. Try Peru's signature drink, the pisco sour cocktail.

MACHU PICCHU

Machu Picchu has four circuits: Follow the signs from Circuit 1 or 2 for an additional ticket price to see the Inca Bridge and those postcard-like views.