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Inkaterra La Casona, Cusco

Built on the site of the palace of Manco Cápac, the legendary founder of the Inca kingdom, this 16th-century mansion was the home of several prominent Spanish conquistadors. It stands on a quiet, historic plaza close to Cusco's principal attractions. While the past is still very much in evidence, with colonial-period antiques and the characteristically Incan geometrical layout, contemporary touches have been added. The 11 suites are warmly decorated and have open fires, and there are extra-large, free-standing tubs in the bathrooms. The property is part of the Inkaterra hotel group, which has a reputation as a leader in sustainable tourism in Peru.

While you're there You can visit MachuPicchu by train or on foot, explore the fortress of Sacsayhuamán and go white-water rafting on the Apurímac River.

Getting there Fly to Lima with Iberia, via Madrid, and take a domestic flight to Cusco with LAN.

Fast facts 0800 458 7506; www.inkaterra.com. Doubles from US\$720. Book with Journey Latin America (020 8747 8315; www.journeylatinamerica.co.uk)