

# PERU



The Inca citadel of Machu Picchu

Still shrouded in the mysteries of Inca civilization, Peru's Sacred Valley is a treasure trove of ancient ruins, dramatic landscapes, and Andean villages that still cling to age-old traditions. Starting in magical Cusco, trace the legacy of the Inca all the way to their crowning achievement: the citadel of Machu Picchu. Immerse yourself in this enchanting land, meeting artisans and farmers and getting acquainted with daily life in the Andes. Stay in a historic manor house, go stargazing high in the mountains, and enjoy two full days to explore Machu Picchu and its environs.

## ITINERARY | 9 DAYS

### DAY 1 CUSCO, PERU

Fly via Lima to Cusco, the gateway to Peru's Inca heartland. Settle into **Inkaterra La Casona**, a member of the National Geographic Unique Lodges of the World collection. Enjoy an exclusive architectural tour of this restored 16th-century manor, once home to Simón Bolívar. Take the rest of the day to relax or explore Cusco's old town, a UNESCO World Heritage site. **INKATERRA LA CASONA**

### DAY 2 CUSCO

Uncover the many layers of Cusco's vivid history on a private tour of the city. Visit the Iglesia de Santo Domingo and La Catedral—churches that showcase a fusion of pre-Columbian and colonial design. Get introduced to the marvels of Inca architecture at the staggering ruins of Sacsayhuaman, and absorb the vibrancy of Peruvian culture in the Plaza de Armas, the festive central square. In the afternoon, explore this fascinating city further at your leisure.

**INKATERRA LA CASONA (B)**

### DAY 3 SACRED VALLEY OF THE INCA

Begin your three-day journey through the Sacred Valley of the Inca. In Awanacancha, learn about Andean textiles at a private weaving demonstration. Traditional weaving and wool-dyeing practices have been recently revived thanks to the efforts of National Geographic grantee Nilda Callañaupa, a master weaver native to the valley. Test your bargaining skills in the colorful stalls of Pisac's famous market and visit the studio of an artist who uses ancient Peruvian ceramic techniques. Continue to **Inkaterra Hacienda Urubamba**, a Unique Lodge of the World perched on the emerald slopes of the Sacred Valley. This evening, join the lodge bartender in the hacienda's cozy lounge for an exclusive lesson on how to make the perfect pisco sour, Peru's national drink.

**INKATERRA HACIENDA URUBAMBA (B, L)**



A traditional weaver in the Sacred Valley

## TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- › Discover the secrets of incomparable Machu Picchu with a private guide.
- › Stay in three spectacular National Geographic Unique Lodges of the World: Inkaterra La Casona, Inkaterra Hacienda Urubamba, and Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel.
- › Watch local artisans at work during Andean weaving and ceramics demonstrations.
- › Visit Patakancha to learn about everyday life in Andean villages.



An endangered spectacled bear

## DAYS 4 AND 5 SACRED VALLEY OF THE INCA

Follow the Sacred Valley's most scenic roads, passing through a patchwork of verdant fields set beneath snowcapped peaks. See the terraced remains of impressive Inca agriculture systems at Chinchero and Moray. Then visit the white salt mines stacked on the slopes of Maras. The next day, explore the town of Ollantaytambo, where colonial buildings were erected upon the original Inca street plan. This afternoon, learn about everyday life in the Andean village of Patakancha.

INKATERRA HACIENDA URUBAMBA (B, L DAILY)

## DAY 6 MACHU PICCHU

Make your way to Machu Picchu, the renowned 15th-century Inca citadel rediscovered by Hiram Bingham in 1911 and excavated with support from the National Geographic Society. Choose to take the scenic train ride from Ollantaytambo to Machu Picchu Pueblo (also known as Aguas Calientes). Or disembark early for an optional trek

on the Inca Trail with a private guide (this option must be reserved in advance so that permits can be secured). Hike through lesser-known Inca ruins to the famous Sun Gate, where you can take in your first views of Machu Picchu. Your home for the next two nights is **Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel**, a National Geographic Unique Lodge nestled within its own private rain forest reserve just below the citadel. At twilight, stroll through the grounds with a lodge guide to hear the sounds of the rain forest. **INKATERRA MACHU PICCHU PUEBLO HOTEL (B, D)**

## DAY 7 MACHU PICCHU

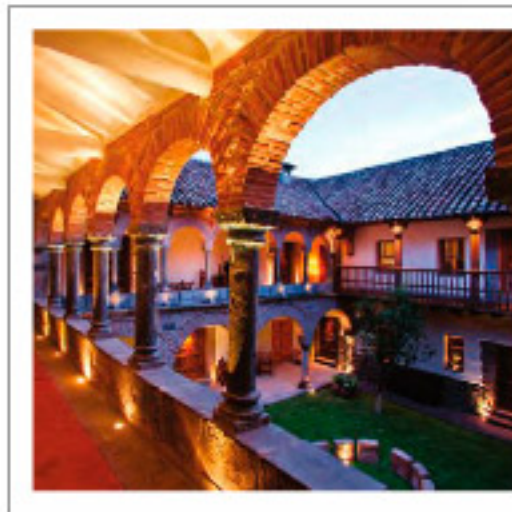
Rise early to catch a dazzling sunrise over Machu Picchu. During a tour of the ruins with a private guide, learn about the Incas' incredible construction feats and day-to-day life in the ancient city. Spend the rest of the day on your own, immersed in the magic of this mysterious and awe-inspiring site. **INKATERRA MACHU PICCHU PUEBLO HOTEL (B, D)**

## DAY 8 MACHU PICCHU/CUSCO

Go on a guided nature walk through the lush grounds of the lodge, where hundreds of orchid, bird, and butterfly species make their home. Enjoy a private guided visit to the lodge's spectacled bear rehabilitation program before traveling back to Cusco, where you have another free afternoon to explore. **INKATERRA LA CASONA (B)**

## DAY 9 CUSCO/LIMA

Fly from Cusco to Lima, the capital of Peru. Tour the cathedral and other colonial buildings of the historic center, a World Heritage site, and examine pre-Columbian treasures at the Larco Herrera Museum. This afternoon, transfer back to the airport to catch your flight home. (B)



## DATES

This expedition is available year-round. Choose the dates that work for you. For 2017 price inquiries please call our reservations specialists.

## 2016 EXPEDITION COST

6 people or more	\$4,895
4 people	\$5,095
2 people	\$5,995

Prices are per person, double occupancy and are subject to availability. Single traveler prices are available upon request. A holiday surcharge may apply to certain travel dates. International airfare to and from Lima, and airfare between Lima and Cusco, are not included in the expedition cost.

## FEATURED LODGES

Spend every night of your trip at a Unique Lodge: **Inkaterra La Casona** (pictured left), a historic mansion in Cusco's old town; **Inkaterra Hacienda Urubamba**, a colonial-style estate in the Sacred Valley of the Inca; and **Inkaterra Machu Picchu** (see page 9), whose adobe casitas are tucked in the jungle just below the iconic Inca site. At each lodge, you'll enjoy an experience arranged exclusively for our guests.



UNIQUE LODGES  
OF THE WORLD