



Peru Private Expedition

- **Trip Type:** Private Expedition
- 9 days | Round-trip Cusco

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Expedition Details

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Expedition Details

Accommodations

Photos From Our Travelers

Related National Geographic Feature

Optional Extension: Amazon Rainforest

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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.

Trip Highlights

- Enjoy an early morning at Machu Picchu, then unlock the secrets of these mysterious ruins while exploring 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.**
- Attend a private demonstration of traditional Andean wool-dyeing and weaving—practices recently revived in the Sacred Valley by National Geographic grantee Nilda Callañaupa.
- Enjoy experiences exclusively reserved for National Geographic travelers, including a chicha-brewing lesson, an architectural tour of a Cusco colonial manor, and a private visit to a spectacled bear rehabilitation center.

Itinerary - 9 Days

Day 1 — Arrive Cusco, Peru

Fly via Lima to Cusco, the gateway to Peru's Inca heartland. Settle

About Private Expeditions

National Geographic Private Expeditions are specially crafted itineraries designed for independent travelers that combine guided excursions, fascinating insights into culture and wildlife, and top accommodations. Simply select a trip and decide whom you'd like to travel with and when you want to travel. We'll take care of the rest.

Have questions? Contact us!

Toll-free: (888) 732-2379



Seasonality

This expedition is available year-round.

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 the history of llamas and other camelids that call this region home. 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 a naturalist in the lodge's on-site Chicha House for a hands-on lesson in brewing, *chicha de jora*, a popular local drink.

Inkaterra Hacienda Urubamba (B, L)

Days 4 & 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. At The Center of Traditional Textiles of Cusco, 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. 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; B, L)

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

Dates

Private Expeditions are designed to fit into your schedule. You choose your desired departure date, and we'll make all the arrangements. Click the reservation request button below to get started.

[Start Reservation Request](#)

Expedition Cost

2018	
6 people	\$4,695
4 people	\$4,895
2 people	\$5,795

Prices are per person, double occupancy and are subject to availability. Single traveler prices are available upon request.

International airfare to and from Lima, and airfare between Lima and Cusco, are not included in the expedition cost.

A holiday surcharge may apply to certain travel dates based upon international or local holidays, as well as local events and festivals.

For 2019 price inquiries please call our reservations specialists.

Featured Traveler Photo



#shoppingcenter #nature #andes #travel
#ngexpeditions #mountains #jungle
#путешествие

[View more photos from our travelers](#)  

Activity Level

Light/Moderate

Rise early to catch the early morning light Machu Picchu. During a tour of the ruins with a private guide, learn about the Inca's incredible construction feats and day-to-day life in the ancient city. Spend the day 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 — Lima/Depart

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)

Related Trips



Galápagos and Peru



Peru: Land of the Inca

Travelers should be in good health and comfortable walking or standing for extended periods of time. Daily activities may include city walking tours, visits to sites, game drives, or easy hikes, with options for more physical activities such as hiking, kayaking, snorkeling and biking.

Click [here](#) for a description of all activity levels.

Contact Us: 1-888-732-2379

Call to speak with a specialist about this trip.

Other Important Details

We will be traveling at high elevations while in Peru. Cusco is at an altitude of 11,100 feet. The Sacred Valley is at an altitude of 9,200 feet. Machu Picchu is at an altitude of 7,972 feet. Participants should be physically fit. This expedition is not suitable for anyone who suffers from a respiratory disorder, a circulatory ailment, or a disability that limits mobility. Please contact our reservations specialists to learn about the level of physical activity on this trip. The activity level can be decreased or increased based on your preference.

Traveler Tip

As a National Geographic guest at Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel, you'll be invited on a guided visit to the field site of the Spectacled Bear Project. Hear about efforts to rehabilitate bears that have been negatively affected by humans, and learn how they can be reintroduced into their natural habitat.

Request a Reservation

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