



Birds & Wildlife of Peru

The Best Peruvian Wildlife Tour Period!

Why you should choose this trip?

1. Unbelievable concentration of birds, wildlife and mountains!
2. Unique opportunity for the best of culture and nature.
3. Expert naturalists on natural and cultural history.
4. Great accommodations and incredible food!
5. The best value for the dollar in Peru.

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Peru has long fascinated humans. A legendary land, recently known for its ancient ruins, vibrant traditional culture and virgin mountains and rivers. In a setting of exotic geography, Peru is one of the greatest destination in the world for bird and wildlife viewing. The complex and irregular geography is divided lengthwise from north to south by the Andes mountain range. This is undoubtedly the main reason for the mega diversity of this extraordinarily land. The mountains are intersected into endless inter-valleys, that produce unique climates making Peru a region riddled with remarkable contrasts: arid deserts and exuberant Amazon jungles, glaciers and savannas, flower-filled valleys and white sandy beaches.



Any kind of visit to Peru will be touched by a mystic and rich cultural experience. The Andes hold a tremendous cosmic power. The abounding pre-Inca and Inca archeological remains are present all over the country and are still waiting to be completely explored and researched . Among the ruins are numerous areas of incredible bird and wildlife riches in the world.

Highlights:

- Witness the marvelous wildlife sights and sounds of Peru!
- Bask in the beautiful valleys, the snow covered mountains and sacred valley of the Incas.
- Hike among the magnificent ruins of Sacsaywaman, Kenko and Tambomachay.
- Float an incredible river that runs through some of the most beautiful wildlife habitat in Peru.
- Observe Humboldt penguins and the Cock-on-the-rock!

Dates: September 19-29, 2012

Program Fee: \$3995/person/double
\$500 single supplement

Optional Extension: Machu Picchu & Sacred Valley
\$1495/person/double
\$250 single supplement



Environmental Adventure Company

www.eactours.com

1-888-422-5660

Daily Itinerary**

Day 1: Arrive in Lima, Peru

Fly to Lima, Peru where you are met at the airport and transferred to your hotel. Overnight: Jose Antonio Executive (D).

Day 2: Lima to Paracas

We depart for an early morning transfer to Paracas. On route we visit the Villa Marshes, an attractive wetland home to over 150 bird species.

This afternoon we explore, the Paracas National Reserve, one of the world's most amazing coastal reserves and home to the endangered Humboldt penguin, South American fur seal and sea lion as well as 63 migrant bird species. Overnight: Las Dunas Hotel, Ica, Peru (B, L, D).

Day 3: Ballestas Island

Our day is spent on the water boating around the Ballestas Islands. These islands host not only one of the largest and richest concentrations of seabirds to be found anywhere in the world, but also the greatest population of Humboldt Penguins. We have special permission to cruise around the island viewing and photographing this endangered species. Overnight: Jose Antonio Executive (B, L, D).

Day 4: Lima to Cusco to Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge

This morning we transfer to Cusco on a one-hour flight. After breakfast and some time to relax, we transfer by bus to the cloud forest. We pass over two Andean chains of almost 13,100 feet in elevation where we hope to see the giant hummingbird and mountain caracara. We enjoy lunch at the edge of the cloud forest and from here the road descends the eastern slope of the Andes. We plunge downwards, past remnant patches of elfin forest, to emerge in a forest of stunted, evergreen trees, festooned with mosses, lichens, bromeliads and other epiphytes. Overnight: Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge (B, L, D).

Day 5: Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge

Rising before the first light of morning, we visit the traditional display ground of the Andean Cock-of-the-Rock, which has become famous among scientists, tourists and the international press, as there is no other spot in the world where so many of these spectacular blazing red birds can be seen so easily. The rest of the day can be spent exploring the forest near the lodge, or some of the miles of trails that wind through the valley, to see high elevation cloud forest birds. If you are lucky you may see a troop of muscular-limbed Woolly Monkeys or Brown Capuchin Monkeys. Overnight: Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge (B, L, D).

Day 6: Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge to Amazonia Lodge

This morning we bird the cloud forest and look for Woolly Monkeys. We then transfer to Atalaya via a 3-hour bus ride and brief cargo canoe ride to the Amazonia Lodge. This is a famous

~ Peru Itinerary ~

bird watching and wildlife observation destination surrounded by a diversity of habitats such as bamboo forest, successional flood plain, hill forest and swamp, all within short walking distances. Overnight: Amazonia Lodge (B, L, D).

Day 7: Amazonia Lodge to Manu Wildlife Center

We travel on the River Madre de Dios for about 6 hours to Boca Manu. On the way we have excellent wildlife viewing possibilities and a wonderful visit at an Indigenous Piro Indian Village. Today, at one of the top ten wildlife lodges in the world, we begin your exploration through almost 30 miles of diverse forest trails. Overnight: Manu Wildlife Center (B, L, D).

Day 8: Manu Wildlife Center

Rising before dawn, we take a boat journey downstream to the only large parrot and macaw clay lick in the Manu area. From a floating catamaran blind we are afforded excellent views and photo opportunities of hundreds of medium-sized and large parrots arriving first at the lick, followed by large Red-and-Green Macaws. Overnight: Manu Wildlife Center (B, L, D).

Day 9: Manu Wildlife Center

This morning you have what promises to be an exciting visit to Blanco Oxbow Lake. This lake has populations of a variety of aquatic life and water birds, including the prehistoric-looking hoatzin and giant otters. This afternoon, you are free to explore the surrounding rain forest habitats. Overnight: Manu Wildlife Center (B, L, D).

Day 10: Manu Wildlife Center to Cusco

After breakfast, we leave by motor canoe for the return trip to the Manu landing strip and our flight to Cusco. This afternoon we visit the most important places of the archaeological capital of the Americas - the capital of the Inca's Empire. Overnight: Novotel Hotel (B, L, D).

Day 11: Cusco to Lima

We transfer to the airport for flights to Lima. This afternoon we take in the best of Lima from pre-Hispanic, Colonial and Modern times. In the late evening transfer to the airport for overnight flights back to the U.S. (B, L).

** There is an Optional extension to Machu Picchu available.

Post-Extension - Machu Picchu

The Magical Land of the Incas



Day 1: Cusco

We spend today in the Sacred Valley of the Incas and we begin by visiting the Chinchero Market, a very authentic traditional market with relatively few tourists. The market starts at about 9a.m. and continues to midday. 80% of the market is dedicated to local products and about 20% to handicrafts, particularly handmade textiles, which can be bought at a very reasonable price. After lunch at a local restaurant we continue to Ollantaytambo, one of the most peculiar and amazing works of art made by the Incas, to visit the amazing ruins. The magnificent walls of this impressive architectural complex resemble a "Fortress" and was actually a shelter, or Tambo, located in a strategic place in the Sacred Valley.

Overnight: Posada del Inca - Yucay (B, L, D).

Day 2: Machu Picchu

After breakfast we are transferred to the Ollanta station where we catch the train to Machu Picchu. The 1.5-hour train journey, offering views of picturesque Andean scenery and traditional villages, follows the ever-narrowing gorge of the Urubamba River to Aguas Calientes town. As we approach the Machu Picchu Sanctuary, the valley turns into a canyon and the vegetation changes to a cloud forest. We then take a 30-minute bus drive up the switchback road to Machu Picchu. Once at the site we are offered an orientation and a guided exploration of the fabled Inca citadel from a local guide. Situated on the spine of a jungle cloaked granite peak towering some 600 meters above an entrenched meander of the roaring river below, the site is frequently shrouded in misty clouds pierced by the powerful equatorial sun. Constructed from precisely sculptured granite blocks carefully joined with the projecting exposed stone of the surrounding mountain, the site may well be the finest architectural achievement of the new world.

Overnight: Machu Picchu Pueblo (B, L, D).

Day 3: Machu Picchu - Cusco

After a morning of leisure we take the afternoon train back to Cusco. This afternoon we have an opportunity to visit the Citadel before the crowds arrive. *Overnight: Casa Andina Private Collection (B, L, D).*

Day 4: Cusco to Lima

Transfer to the airport for flights to Lima. Arrive at the Lima airport and be transferred to Jose Antonio Executive Hotel for a day use room. In the afternoon we will visit the city of Lima and the Larco Herrera museum. Our tour gives you the best combination of attractions in Lima from pre-Hispanic, Colonial and Modern times. We'll tour the Huaca Pucllana a magnificent ceremonial and administrative site, dating back to the IV century A.C.. Also included is a visit to Lima's historic downtown, including: the Main Plaza and the surrounding monuments: the Presidential Palace, the Cathedral, the Archbishop's Palace, City Hall, the Desamparados train station, and the Moorish-style houses and balconies along Lima's old streets. We will visit the traditional neighborhood near the San Isidro Golf Club, the Olive Grove Park and the modern Larcomar shopping and entertainment complex, a distinctive landmark of Modern Lima offering a spectacular view of the Pacific Ocean.

Later, we will visit the Larco Museum, located in a royal mansion of the 18th century, built on top of a pre-Columbian pyramid of the 7th century. It has a gold and silver collection from ancient Peru and interesting erotic pottery collection. Didactic chronological gallery shows 3,000 years of Peruvian ancient history.

Late evening transfer to the airport in Lima for international flight.