



## Lake Titicaca, Andes, Mountains and Rainforest of Southern Peru Day by day description

**Note:** Extensions can be programmed at the end to remain in Cusco or for that matter at the end in Lima. Let us know if you would like to plan a side trip at the end.

### **Day 1 : USA/Lima**

Transfer to your hotel, overnight.

### **Day 2 : Lima**

Free day to undertake visits to the city of Lima and surroundings or to some of the wide selection of museums and historic monuments. Lunch and dinner on your own. Overnight at hotel.

### **Day 3 : Lima/Arequipa**

Flight to Arequipa and half – day tour of the city and surroundings. Afternoon drive to the Colca Canyon, lunch on your own, overnight at a hotel in Chivay.

### **Day 4 : Arequipa/Puno**

Vehicle will pick you up for a visit to the Cruz del Condor where you will be able to observe these magnificent birds. After that drive for about 4 hours on the paved road between Arequipa and Puno. A beautiful drive over the high Andes, pass by some high lakes and come out to the Altiplano near Juliaca, drive to Puno, visiting Sillustani ruins on the way if time permits.

### **Day 5 : Puno**

We will spend a good part of the day on Lake Titicaca or on some of the surrounding peninsulas and islands.

Leaving Puno we head north taking a detour at Juliaca to the north-west to visit the colonial capital of Puno, Lampa, a beautiful village with an impressive church and colonial houses with stone-hewn porticos, overnight at a country inn.

### **Day 6 : Lampa/Pucara/Sicuni and Raqchi**

From here we take a different road back to the main paved road climbing over a hilly crest of Q'ëñua forests – a rare Andean forest found only in microclimatic conditions and a rare experience in this vast “puna” (highland savannah) panorama. We visit the Inca site of Pucara, surrounded by a village with characteristic pottery. From here we continue past the town to Ayaviri and Santa Rosa. Over the La Raya Pass at 4,280 m, as we start our slow descent into the town of Sicuni, capital of the province of Cuzco. En route we will have a picnic lunch, visiting the ruins of Raqchi in the afternoon – a Wari/Inca site which has huge structures of stone and adobe. Overnight at a local hotel.

### **Day 7 : Matespampa**

Early departure past the village of Tinta taking a side road towards the village of Santa Barbara. On this dirt road we slowly climb to reach Phinaya, at the southern tip of Lake Sibinacocha. This lake located at 4200 m. is 22 kms long and in places 2 km wide, filled with the snow melt from the now visible peaks of the Cordillera Vilcanota. From here a half day hike through rolling landscape will bring us to our first camp-site at Matespampa. (Time: 3 hours/Distance: 4 Kms)

### **Day 8 : Qasqara**

From our campsite we begin a slow ascent passing various rock formations until we reach a high pass at 16,500 ft. (5,030 m) From here we continue along a ridge to the right and finally as we



turn a slope we will glimpse our camp – site at Q'asqara Lake with a beautiful snow-capped cirque of Mt. Callangate, Ausara and the rocky Mt. Yayamari (lunch on route). One of the most impressive camp – sites on the trip. (Time: 8 hours/Distance: 13 kms).

#### **Day 9 : Cochauma**

Leaving our beautiful camp behind we cross the Yayamari Pass at 17,870 ft. (5,448 m) where we get a amazing view of Lake Sibinacocha sprawling to the south the rolling landscape and Mt. Qelcaya (known as the Peruvian Ice Cap) to the south east. As we descend our emergency saddle horses will come in useful today to cross two streams at the headwaters of Lake Sibinacocha and we camp on a meadow at Cochauma at 4,400 m. (Time: 7 hours/Distance: 8 kms).

#### **Day 10 : Killita**

From Camp to a first pass and then onto Condor Pass at 17,000 ft. (5,182 m) we will leave behind the view of Lake Sibinacocha, passing a side valley with a chance to see herds of Vicuña, a camelid with extremely fine wool that until recently was on the endangered species list. The pass brings us close to Mt. Qomercocha, covered by a sloping glacier from where we descend into the Killita Valley - a chance to come across small herds of alpaca, spotted on the hillsides. From the pass we get our first view of Mt. Ausangate, the highest peak of the Cordillera Vilcanota. As we reach the valley floor we set up camp at 4,725 m (15,500 ft) (Time: 8 hours/Distance: 6.5 Kms).

#### **Day 11 : Acordo**

We turn west up a hillside over two Passes at 5,000 m (16,400 ft.) and to camp at Acordo near Lake Janococha at 4,878 m (16,100 ft.) our highest campsite. From here we have awesome views of scree slopes, moraines and glaciers of Mt. Colquecruz, Jampa and Acero. This is our hardest trekking day but well worth the experience. (Time: 9 hours / Distance: 10 Kms).

#### **Day 12 : Ninaparayoc**

We cross moraines below the rocky massifs rounding a meadow at Wanuwanu below Mt. Acero. From here we start our ascent over the last Pass at Jampa Apacheta at 4,400 m (15,000 ft.) to finally reach our campsite at Lake Ninaparayoc with amazing views of Mt. Mariposa, Caracol and the northern side of Mt. Ausangate. (Time: 8 hours / Distance: 8 kms).

#### **Day 13 : Qoñamuro/Tinki**

We walk past two sacred water holes or mountain springs to reach the village of Pacchanta. A chance to dip in the thermal springs, buy some weavings from the locals at lunch break and continue to Tinki. The sloping plain traverses houses sprinkled along the highland savannah as we leave the icy peaks behind us, arriving at our campsite in time for a typical farewell meal known as Pachamanca at Qoñamuro.

#### **Day 14 : Tinki/Cloud Forest**

(Drive back to Cusco for those not wanting to do the Amazon portion where we can arrange a 4D/3N extension or a trip to another part of Peru.) Drive towards Cusco and take a detour at Ccattca down to the rainforest, passing the village of Paucartambo and the outer limits of the Manu National Park. The winding road begins to descend through the cloud – forest to Atalaya, passing small villages at Chontabamba, Patria and Pilcopata. Overnight at a lodge on route.

#### **Day 15 : Tambo Blanquillo**

We board a canoe with an outboard engine on the Alto Madre de Dios at Atalaya for an exciting ride down to the confluence with the Manu River and arrive to Tambo Blanquillo – on the Madre de Dios River, rustic lodge with basic comforts, where we overnight.



**Day 16 : Macaw Lick/Oxbow Lake**

Early morning visit to the Macaw Lick to watch this wildlife experience with hundreds of parrots of different species coming to the lick from a floating blind. Return to the lodge to Camp. Afternoon walk through the rainforest to visit one of the oxbow lakes where we can float around and see the animal life on its fringes – return to lodge.

**Day 17 : Tambo Blanquillo**

Morning excursion to the observation platform to get a birds-eye view of the rainforest canopy from the upper canopy to the surrounding trees. A unique experience it offers a great observation vantage point. Afternoon excursion available to a second oxbow lake or just time to hang out at the lodge.

**Day 18 : Boca Manu/Cusco**

We board our canoe to Boca Manu airport where a small plane will transport us to Cusco. Transfer to a hotel. Overnight, lunch and dinner on your own.

**Day 19 : Cusco/Lima**

Transfer to airport for flight to Lima. Arrive in Lima transfer to hotel. Late transfer to airport.

**SERVICES INCLUDED:**

Transfers, transport, guided tours, hotels with breakfast and lunch, dinner in Sicuani and all meals during trek and rainforest portion, pack animals, camp and kitchen crew, commissary gear, two-man tents including sleeping pads, bilingual guide, who will handle the first aid kit, dug out canoes and charter plane from Boca Manu/Cusco.

**SERVICES NOT INCLUDED:**

Dinners in cities (except in Sicuani), laundry services, alcoholic beverages, extras, taxes and local airfare LIM/AQP and CUSCO/LIMA (Approximately \$ 240), personal equipment and sleeping bags.