

# INCAS, GAUCHOS & URUGUAY WITH CARNIVAL, (JLUR)

Rio de Janeiro to Lima 102 Days, departing 12th February 2021



## TRIP OVERVIEW

**Trip Style:** Overlanding

**Route:** Rio de Janeiro to Lima

**Duration:** 102 Days

**Transport:** Metro, Private Bus, Overland Expedition Vehicle, Ferry, Local Bus, Boat, Jeep, Train

**Accommodation:** Comfortable Hotel 25 nights  
Multishare Hostel 22 nights  
Camping 30 nights  
Basic Hotel 14 nights  
Wild Camp 7 nights  
Homestay 1 night

**Meals:** Breakfasts x 80, Lunches x 45, Dinners x 43

**Physical Challenge:** ● ● ● ● ○

The trip may include multi-day treks at high altitude, walking for 5-8 hours per day.

**Lifestyle Challenge:** ● ● ● ● ○

This is a fairly challenging trip; you may well be travelling at high altitudes, across deserts or through cold and windy or hot and steamy areas. The terrain and roads may be rough and the facilities can be very basic or non-existent. There may be some long drive days followed by wild camps, and physically and mentally it can be tough, but there will be some rest days and time to relax as well.



# DAILY ITINERARY

## Day 1 - Rio de Janeiro (12th February 2021)

Welcome to Rio Carnival, the biggest party on the planet!

There will be an important meeting at 17:00 or 18:00, where you'll have a full briefing on how to make the most of your time in Rio and receive your tickets, maps, T-Shirt and souvenir booklet - please check the notice board in the reception area for other important information throughout the week.

After the meeting we have a table booked at a nearby buffet restaurant, so you can get to know some of your fellow travellers.

Our dedicated Carnival team will be on hand throughout the week for a few hours each day to provide any assistance you may need.

There's a whole host of additional optional activities that you may like to take part in, such as 'Join the Parade', prior early booking is essential!

If you are arriving early you may like to join a Market Tour or Jungle Tour.

In Rio de Janeiro we will stay in a great hotel in the Flamengo district, accommodation is in twin or double rooms. Our hotel is close to the beach and the metro station. Our hotel check-in is from 2pm, and staff will be on hand to give you assistance.

Border information: if you are joining in Rio de Janeiro, you will most likely enter Brazil at Rio de Janeiro Galeão International Airport.

Accommodation: Hotel Argentina "A" - carnival trips

## Day 2 - Rio de Janeiro (13th February 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

Today we will visit the most iconic sights of Rio; the immense statue of Christ the Redeemer standing at 710m on Corcovado mountain and the Pão de Açúcar (Sugarloaf Mountain). We will have some time to explore these sights in our own time, you may even choose to take a helicopter ride!. We will also aim to see some other important landmarks such as the Maracanã stadium, Escadaria Selarón and the Lapa Arches. We will travel by minibus. (NB today's tour is unguided but you will be accompanied by our crew).

This evening we will head out to Lapa for a night out in a samba club; Rio Scenarium, one of the City's greatest nightspots - it's an antiques warehouse, music venue, bar and restaurant all housed in a fantastic colonial mansion. There will be live samba music and DJ's on each floor. We will be hosting a beginners Samba Dance class in the late afternoon, why not sign up and learn some of the basic steps before hitting the town!

### Daily Activities

#### Included Activities

Visit the world famous Christ the Redeemer statue & Sugar Loaf mountain on a City Tour

Included

Spend the night in Rio Scenarium, one of the best nightclubs in the city

Included

#### Optional Activities

Perfect your Samba moves in a beginners Dance Class

Class: 29 USD

## Day 3 - Rio de Janeiro (14th February 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

This morning why not glitter up and join us at one of the local 'blocos' or street parties, there will be live music, dancing and plenty of opportunities to get to know Rio and it's people! Blocos are great fun, crowded, hot and lively! The local 'cariocas' will be all dressed up, so make sure you come dressed to impress!

In the evening it's time for the main event of the week - the parade in the Sambadrome. The top samba schools parade their fantastic floats and costumes and the party goes on well into the early hours of Monday morning. You'll be situated in Sector 11, close to the action.

## Daily Activities

### Included Activities

Experience the close up view of the fantastic Samba parade from Sector 11 of the Sambadrome

Included

## Day 4 - Rio de Janeiro (15th February 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

This morning is free for you to recover from last night in the Sambadrome! It's a great chance to hit the beach, explore the city or simply have a lie in!

In the afternoon you may wish to join us for a walking tour of Copacabana and Ipanema beaches.

Tonight we have the chance to re-visit the Sambadrome, this time in Sector 5 in the centre of the parade runway, to see the last 7 of the elite Samba schools parading. You even have the option to don a costume and take part in the parade itself, dancing your way down the Sambadrome runway - a once in a lifetime experience!

It is important to pre-book these activities early.

## Daily Activities

### Optional Activities

Second visit to the Sambadrome in the amazing Sector 5

Ticket: 467 USD

Today's Walking Tour will take you through two of the most famous neighbourhoods; Copacabana and Ipanema and finishing up with a picnic by the Rodrigo de Freitas Lagoon.

Tour: 25 USD

Relax and explore the world famous beaches of Rio de Janeiro including Ipanema Arpoador and of course Copacabana

Entrance: Free

## Day 5 - Rio de Janeiro (16th February 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

Today you have free time to enjoy the activities, sights and sounds of Rio! Join a bloco, hit the beach or ride the tram to Santa Teresa. Rio has so much to offer other than it's carnival festivities. We will be organising some fun water based activities such as kayaking and paddle boarding (prior booking is essential).

Tonight you have a free night to hit the town; head downtown and enjoy a Caipirinha under the iconic Lapa arches or join a bloco.

## Daily Activities

### Optional Activities

Explore the magnificent Botanical Gardens of Rio de Janeiro with over 54 hectares and 6500 species of plants and flowers

Entrance: 8 USD

## Day 6 - Rio de Janeiro (17th February 2021)

**Border information:** if you are joining in Rio de Janeiro, you will most likely enter Brazil at Rio de Janeiro Galeão International Airport (IATA code: RIO/GIG).

Welcome to the iconic Brazilian city of Rio de Janeiro! There will be an important group meeting at 6:00pm at the joining hotel - please look out at the hotel reception for a note from your leader with more details about this important meeting.

### Daily Activities

#### Optional Activities

Visit the world famous statue Christ the Redeemer

Train and entrance: 83 BRL

Take a cable car up Pão de Açúcar (Sugarloaf Mountain)

Cable car (return ticket): 85 BRL

Find out all about Brazil's fascinating history by visiting the National Historical Museum in the centre of Rio de Janeiro

Entrance: 6 USD

Relax and explore the world famous beaches of Rio de Janeiro including Ipanema Arpoador and of course Copacabana

Entrance: Free

Explore the magnificent Botanical Gardens of Rio de Janeiro with over 54 hectares and 6500 species of plants and flowers

Entrance: 8 USD

## Day 7 - Ilha Grande (18th February 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

Today we will leave Rio behind and travel by truck to the stunning island retreat of Ilha Grande. We will leave our truck behind for a couple of days and take a ferry, so you may wish to pack a small overnight bag. There are no private cars or banks on the island, so you will need to bring cash along with you and be prepared for a short walk with your bags to the hostel.

## Day 8 - Ilha Grande (19th February 2021)

Free day to enjoy the island.

## Day 9 - Paraty (20th February 2021)

Today our journey begins with a short drive to the colonial town of Paraty on the Emerald Coast of the Atlantic!

We will have free time to explore the town, take a historical tour, walk along the stunning scenery of the coastline, head out snorkelling or diving, or simply relax on the idyllic beaches.

## Day 10 - Paraty (21st February 2021)

We will have free time to explore the town, take a historical tour, walk along the stunning scenery of the coastline, head out snorkelling or diving, or simply relax on the idyllic beaches.

### Daily Activities

## Optional Activities

Learn all about the fascinating history of Brazil and the Gold Trail on an excellent walking tour of the old colonial town of Paraty

Walking Tour: 35 USD

Enjoy some of the best and most scenic treks in the country on the coastal trails hills and 'tropical fjords' near Paraty

Walking Tour: 50 USD

Explore the ocean islands beaches and mangroves of Atlantic coast in a more serene and tranquil fashion on a sea kayaking expedition around the bay of Paraty

Kayaking: 80 BRL

Go for a scuba diving trip in the incredible oceans around Paraty

Diving trip: 250 BRL

Try your hand at stand-up paddle boarding by hiring a board from one of the many vendors at the Jabaquara beach in Paraty

Hire: 35 BRL

## Day 11 - Brotas (22nd February 2021)

**Meals:** Dinner

Today we will drive to the remote town of Brotas in southeastern Brazil.

## Day 12 - Brotas (23rd February 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today is free to take part in optional adventure activities such as white water rafting or canyoning, or to simply relax by the pool!

## Daily Activities

### Optional Activities

Go on a half-day canyoning trip through the gorges of the Jacare River near Brotas

Activity: 270 BRL

Head out white-water rafting on the fast moving waters of the Jacare River (approximately Grade 3-4)

Activity: 150 BRL

## Day 13 - Campo Grande (24th February 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we have a long drive day as we start our journey towards the Pantanal.

## Day 14 - Pantanal (25th February 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we have an early start to meet our guide in Campo Grande, and then drive on to Brazil's amazing Southern Pantanal region, where we have a visit a local eco-tourism ranch (or 'fazenda').

We will spend 2 nights here and have a comprehensive package of included activities such as exploring the beautiful surrounding countryside on horseback, trips down the wildlife-abundant rivers in boats and canoes, and safaris on the ranch's trucks and on foot where we hope to spot capybaras, caimans, and (if we are very lucky) jaguars and ocelots. Our stay here is an incredible highlight!

## Daily Activities

### Included Activities

Spend 2 nights in the Pantanal, the world's largest tropical wetland area, exploring the flora and fauna with local guides

Included

## Day 15 - Pantanal (26th February 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Full day in the Pantanal.

## Day 16 - Bonito (27th February 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch

After our morning activities and one final lunch in our beautiful ranch, it is time to leave the Pantanal and drive to the Brazilian eco-tourism capital of Bonito.

## Day 17 - Bonito (28th February 2021)

We have a full day in Bonito to take part in some incredible optional activities. You could go out on a world-class snorkelling trip, explore the nearby caves, or go abseiling down some of the largest waterfalls in the area, amongst many other possibilities!

## Daily Activities

### Optional Activities

Head on an unforgettable trip to Abismo Anhumas an incredible day out where you abseil through a fissure into a colossal underground cavern and snorkel in the lake at the bottom

Abseiling and snorkelling (incl transport): 800 BRL

Abseiling and Scuba Diving (incl transport): 1,089 BRL

Hire a mountain bike in Bonito to freely explore the incredible countryside of Mato Grosso do Sul

Bike hire: 20 USD

Lobo Guara guided bike trip (half day): 98 USD

Visit the ethereal and other-worldly Blue Lake Cave near Bonito an underground lake with an incredibly vivid shade of blue

Guided visit (incl transport): 105 BRL

Visit the phenomenal Buraco das Araras one of the world's largest sink-holes and a natural aviary of macaws and toucans

1hr visit: 75 BRL

Take an incredible snorkelling trip through the crystal clear waters of the Rio da Prata getting a phenomenal view of the fish and aquatic plants underwater

Snorkelling trip and transport: 290 BRL

## Day 18 - Foz do Iguacu (1st March 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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Today we have a full drive day south to the city of Foz do Iguacu.

## Day 19 - Foz do Iguacu (2nd March 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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Today we will visit the Brazilian side of the phenomenal Iguazu Falls, to get some incredible panoramic vistas of the mighty waterfalls. There is also time for optional activities such as taking a helicopter ride over the falls, visiting the incredible Itaipu Dam, or to quickly stop into Paraguay to pick up some bargains in the nearby Ciudad del Este.

### Daily Activities

#### Included Activities

Discover the unbelievable Iguazu Falls from the Brazilian side

Included

#### Optional Activities

Take a short trip into Paraguay to experience the chaos of Ciudad del Este and pick up a bargain or two (price listed is for a return trip in a taxi)

Taxi to border: 140 BRL

Visit the colossal Itaipu Dam the second largest hydroelectric dam in the world

Special Tour: 68 BRL

Visit the Parque das Aves bird park near Foz do Iguacu a wonderful conservation project which provides an excellent home to over 1000 iconic birds from the region such as toucans macaws and eagles

Entrance: 36 BRL

Take an unforgettable 10-minute helicopter flight over the Iguazu Falls enjoying a bird's eye view of one of the world's most incredible set of waterfalls

Price: 430 BRL

## Day 20 - Foz do Iguacu (3rd March 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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Today we will take a day trip into Argentina to see the incredible Iguazu Falls from the other side. This is well worth doing as the views are even more spectacular, and you'll be able to look right down into the mighty Garganta del Diablo (the largest waterfall here) from a gantry walkway viewing point. We will have a full day at the Argentine side of the falls, allowing us lots of time to freely explore the site, hike some nature trails, or perhaps take an exhilarating (and very wet) boat ride!

### Daily Activities

#### Included Activities

Spend the day exploring the amazing Iguazu Falls from the Argentinian side

Included

#### Optional Activities

Get a soaking on a boat trip to the Falls

Boat: 1,500 ARS

## Day 21 - Yapeyu (4th March 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will leave Iguazu and head to the Argentine town of Yapeyú. This small town was the birthplace of General José de San Martín, one of the principal leaders of several South American countries' struggle for independence from the Spanish Empire.

## Day 22 - Tacuarembó (5th March 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**Border information:** exit Argentina at Salto Grande, enter Uruguay at Salto Grande.

Today we cross into Uruguay and head to the Tacuarembó area - the traditional gaucho land of Uruguay. We will spend 3 nights in an authentic estancia to learn about the gaucho way of living. We will have a chance to learn how to prepare typical food from the area (and of course taste it!) and also enjoy some traditional music.

### Daily Activities

#### Included Activities

Enjoy a 2-night stay at a traditional Uruguayan farm to gain a fascinating insight into the lives of gauchos  
Included

## Day 23 - Tacuarembó (6th March 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Full day at the estancia.

## Day 24 - Montevideo (7th March 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

Today we will head south to the Uruguayan capital Montevideo. The following day will be free to explore Montevideo. The city has a mix of historical buildings and modern architecture and a main feature of the city is the Rambla (waterfront promenade) where locals frequently go for a stroll to drink their mate. Mate is the traditional South American caffeine-rich infused drink sipped through a straw, particularly popular in Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay, Bolivia, Brazil and Chile.

### Daily Activities

#### Optional Activities

Learn all about Uruguayan history and culture at some of Montevideo's many museums such as the National Historical Museum the Gaucho Museum and the Museum of the Andes

Entrances: Free

Get a deeper understanding of Montevideo on a free walking tour of the city from an enthusiastic local guide

Tips only: Free

## Day 25 - Colonia del Sacramento (8th March 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

This morning we head to Colonia del Sacramento, one of the oldest and most picturesque towns in Uruguay and a Unesco World Heritage site. The afternoon is free to explore the charming narrow cobbled streets of the Barrio Histórico and the pretty riverfront.

## Day 26 - Buenos Aires (9th March 2021)



**Meals:** Breakfast

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Today we will hop on the ferry across to the vibrant city of Buenos Aires. The truck will drive around by road and rejoin us later in the day.

## Day 27 - Buenos Aires (10th March 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

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Today is a free day to explore the city and discover its amazing culture, art, and music.

### Daily Activities

#### Optional Activities

Learn all about the cuisine of Argentina on a food tour of Buenos Aires visiting several incredible local top-class eateries that you won't find in the guidebooks!

Tour: 85 USD

Enjoy a free city tour of Buenos Aires

Tour: Free

Visit the strangely beautiful cemetery of Recoleta the final resting place of many ex-presidents and Argentine icons most famously including the tomb of Eva Peron

Entrance: Free

See a different side to Buenos Aires on a tour of its incredible street art with some of the local artists

Tour: 20 USD

Try your hand at the art of tango dancing with a private lesson in Buenos Aires

Lesson: 25 USD

Head out to a tango show in Buenos Aires' oldest cafe the Gran Cafe Tortoni - seeing a slice of iconic Argentine culture in an ideal and intimate setting

Show: 650 ARS

## Day 28 - Buenos Aires (11th March 2021)

Border information: if you are starting your trip in Buenos Aires, you will most likely enter Argentina at Buenos Aires Ministro Pistarini International Airport, also known as Ezeiza Airport (IATA code: BUE/EZE).

Welcome to the cosmopolitan Argentine capital of Buenos Aires! There will be an important group meeting at 6:00pm at the joining hotel - please look out at the hotel reception for a note from your leader with more details about this meeting.

Please note that many of the optional activities will only be possible for those with extra time in Buenos Aires before the start of your trip with us - please contact the Sales team if you would like to book pre-tour accommodation with us to have extra time exploring Buenos Aires.

## Day 29 - Buenos Aires (12th March 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

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Today is a free day to explore the incredible city of Buenos Aires, soak up the atmosphere of its streets, and discover its amazing culture, art, and music.

### Daily Activities

## Optional Activities

Learn all about the cuisine of Argentina on a food tour of Buenos Aires visiting several incredible local top-class eateries that you won't find in the guidebooks!

Tour: 85 USD

Enjoy a free city tour of Buenos Aires

Tour: Free

Visit the strangely beautiful cemetery of Recoleta the final resting place of many ex-presidents and Argentine icons most famously including the tomb of Eva Peron

Entrance: Free

See a different side to Buenos Aires on a tour of its incredible street art with some of the local artists

Tour: 20 USD

Try your hand at the art of tango dancing with a private lesson in Buenos Aires

Lesson: 25 USD

Head out to a tango show in Buenos Aires' oldest cafe the Gran Cafe Tortoni - seeing a slice of iconic Argentine culture in an ideal and intimate setting

Show: 650 ARS

## Day 30 - Bahia Blanca (13th March 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we begin our journey from Buenos Aires with a full drive day across the pampas and grasslands of the province.

## Day 31 - Puerto Madryn (14th March 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we head south to the coastal town of Puerto Madryn.

## Day 32 - Puerto Madryn (15th March 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will have a free day for optional activities in and around Puerto Madryn. There is the opportunity to take a tour to the Valdes Peninsular to see its desolate scenery and abundant marine life, head out on a boat trip in search of dolphins and whales, or perhaps go for afternoon tea in a Welsh tea house in the nearby towns of Gaiman or Trelew.

## Daily Activities

### Optional Activities

Set off on a boat trip from Puerto Madryn in search of playful Commerson's dolphins (all year) or Dusky dolphins (December to March) and Southern Right whales (May to December)!

3hrs: 47 USD

Visit the fascinating modern marine interpretation centre of EcoCentro Mar Patagonia and learn all about the unique ecosystems of the Patagonian sea

Entrance: 125 USD

Explore the intriguing Welsh village of Gaiman near Trelew and visit one of its iconic tea houses. Transfers by bus.

Teahouse entrances: 12 USD

Discover the incredible colony of sea lions at Punta Loma near to Puerto Madryn

Entrance: 100 ARS

Explore the incredible shipwrecks and rocky reefs under the water on a scuba diving trip in the Golfo Nuevo off the shore of Puerto Madryn

3hrs: 150 USD

Visit the outstanding Museum of Paleontology in the Welsh town of Trelew and see the impressive ancient remains

MEF Entrance: 95 USD

### Day 33 - Camarones (16th March 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will drive south along the coast and have an included visit to the incredible remote colony of Magellanic Penguins in Cabo Dos Bahias (Cape Two Bays), close to the town of Camarones. After seeing the phenomenal sight of thousands of penguins nesting on the shore, we will head to the nearby small town of Camarones.

#### Daily Activities

##### Included Activities

Visit the penguin colony at Camarones

Included

### Day 34 - Jaramillo Petrified Forest (17th March 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

From Camarones we set off on an all day drive following the South Atlantic coast.

### Day 35 - El Calafate (18th March 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

Today we leave the coast behind and head west across the country to the town of El Calafate, the gateway to the Perito Moreno Glacier.

### Day 36 - El Calafate (19th March 2021)

Today we will head out on an included full day guided visit to view the stunning Perito Moreno Glacier, one of the most spectacular sights in Patagonia.

#### Daily Activities

##### Included Activities

Guided full day trip to the Perito Moreno Glacier

Included

## Optional Activities

Boat trip beneath the Perito Moreno Glacier

1 hour: 1,000 ARS

Learn all about glaciers at the fantastic modern Glaciarium Museum in El Calafate and visit its cool ice bar in the basement!

Entrance to museum and ice bar: 600 ARS

## Day 37 - Torres Del Paine NP (20th March 2021)

**Meals:** Dinner

Border information: Exit Argentina at Cerro Castillo and enter Chile at Cerro Castillo.

Today we will drive to the world-famous Torres del Paine National Park. This is one of the most outstanding areas of natural beauty in the world and a main highlight of the trip for many of our passengers and leaders! We will stop en route in Puerto Natales to stock up on supplies and pick up our local guides and cook who will accompany us during our time in the National Park.

Tonight we will camp at Camping Pehoe, a stunning campsite inside the National Park with incredible views of Los Cuernos mountains, which we will refer to as our 'base campsite'.

## Daily Activities

### Included Activities

4 days in the rugged Torres del Paine National Park, trekking the W walk with a local guide

Included

## Day 38 - Torres Del Paine NP (21st March 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Embark on the W-Walk with a local guide. Places at the campsites are limited by the National Park, so we book them in advance of your trip. We will be trekking the W-Walk from West to East, to enjoy the spectacular views.

This morning we will wake early and transfer by truck for the morning Catamaran to cross Lago Pehoe. We will then set up camp at Paine Grande, before continuing on our hike towards the lookout for Glacier Grey.

## Day 39 - Torres Del Paine NP (22nd March 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we depart from our camp at Paine Grande and hike into the stunning French Valley. In the afternoon, we will make our way to Camp Cuernos.

The hike is approximately 8 hours.

## Day 40 - Torres Del Paine NP (23rd March 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we have a slightly easier day, we will hike from Camping Cuernos along the edge of Lago Nodenskjold, around Almirante Nieto and stay just outside Valley Ascencio. We will arrive at Camp Central after approximately 5 hours hiking.

## Day 41 - Torres Del Paine NP (24th March 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

This is our final day of the W-Walk and the most spectacular. The day begins with a steady climb from our camp site up Rio Asencio. Be prepared for the final hour which is a relatively steep scramble up to the Tarn and Mirrador Las Torres, affording great views of the iconic Towers.

Our hike today is approximately 8 hours for the return trip (16km). We will spend the night at Camp Central again.

## Day 42 - Tierra Del Fuego (25th March 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we have an early start to leave Torres del Paine and head south to cross the Magellan Straits onto the island of Tierra del Fuego.

Tonight we will wild bush camp somewhere in the desolate wilds of the Chilean side of Tierra del Fuego.

## Day 43 - Ushuaia (26th March 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch

Border information: Exit Chile at San Sebastian, enter Argentina at San Sebastian

Today we cross over to the Argentine side of Tierra del Fuego and drive to the incredible port town of Ushuaia, the southernmost city in the world!

## Day 44 - Ushuaia (27th March 2021)

We will have a free day in the remote town of Ushuaia, with plenty of time for optional activities such as a visit to the hauntingly beautiful Tierra del Fuego National Park, boat trips to see the scenery and wildlife of the Beagle Channel, or heading out horse riding along the coast.

### Daily Activities

#### Optional Activities

Beagle channel boat trips

4 hours: 2,040 ARS

Explore Tierra del Fuego National Park on a day tour from Ushuaia

4 hour guided tour: 1,450 ARS

Learn all about Tierra del Fuego's history and nature at the Museum of the End of the World in Ushuaia

Entrance: 300 ARS

Delve into Ushuaia's past and learn about it's maritime tradition and former prison colony at the Maritime Museum

Entrance: 400 ARS

Take a journey along the Rio Pipo on the Train to the End of the World. Once built by prisoners at Ushuaia's old penal colony

Train trip: 44 USD

## Day 45 - Tierra Del Fuego (28th March 2021)

**Meals:** Lunch, Dinner

Border information: Exit Argentina at San Sebastian, enter Chile at San Sebastian.

Today we start heading back north and back onto the Chilean side of Tierra del Fuego. Here we will visit the small King Penguin colony that have recently set up home at the remote Bahia Inutil (Useless Bay).

## Daily Activities

### Included Activities

Head out to the remote corner of Chilean Tierra del Fuego. If time allows, visit the King Penguin colony at Bahia Inutil, the only colony of these type of penguins outside of Antarctica

Included

### Day 46 - Argentinian Patagonia (29th March 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Border information: Exit Chile at Integracion Austral, enter Argentina at Integracion Austral.

Today we continue our journey north, crossing the Magellan Strait back to the mainland and then heading across the Argentine border.

### Day 47 - El Chalten (30th March 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

Today we will continue north, overlanding across the Patagonian steppe and to the small town of El Chaltén, situated in Los Glaciares National Park and famous for its incredible mountains, glaciers and world-class trekking opportunities.

### Day 48 - El Chalten (31st March 2021)

We will have a day to enjoy the stunning Los Glaciares National Park and the incredible scenery of the nearby Mt. Fitz Roy. There are lots of trekking and walking opportunities here, as well as boat trips, horse riding, and many other fantastic options.

## Daily Activities

### Optional Activities

Enjoy a spectacular kayaking trip down the Rio de las Vueltas taking in some incredible views of the surrounding mountains

Min 2 passengers: 150 USD

Visit the majestic Lago del Desierto, a remote and serene lake surrounded by stunning forests and mountains

Full day cycling tour: 500 USD

Horse riding and trekking around El Chalten

2 hours ride inc transfer: 60 ARS

Head on a rock-climbing course in the magnificent landscapes surrounding El Chalten

Full day course: 163 USD

Take a boat out onto the stunning Viedma Lake and get up close to the Viedma Glacier to see its impressive facade.

2.5hr boat trip: 1,100 ARS

### Day 49 - Rio Pinturas (1st April 2021)

**Meals:** Dinner

Today we start heading north again with a full day drive along the famous Ruta 40 (Route 40).

### Day 50 - Cerro Castillo NR (2nd April 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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Border information: Exit Argentina at Ingeniero Pallavecini, enter Chile at Puerto Ingeniero Ibáñez.

Today we will drive across the border into the magnificent scenery of the Chilean Carretera Austral, possibly one of the most stunning areas in South America, with the beautiful mountains of the Cerro Castillo National Reserve.

In Cerro Castillo we will camp in a lovely family-run campsite with basic facilities, where we will enjoy a Chilean BBQ.

## Daily Activities

### Included Activities

Enjoy a traditional Chilean BBQ

Included

## Day 51 - Cerro Castillo NR (3rd April 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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We have a free day here to enjoy optional activities such as hiking to the turquoise waters of Laguna Cerro Castillo or to go horse riding.

## Daily Activities

### Optional Activities

Explore the beautiful mountain scenery of Cerro Castillo on a horse riding trip

2hr 15min ride: 18,000 CLP

Hike to the stunning Laguna Cerro Castillo

NP entrance: 10,000 CLP

## Day 52 - Puyuhuapi (4th April 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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Today we drive through the Chilean fjords to Queluat National Park, where we can take a walk in the enchanted forest to see the spectacular Hanging Glacier.

## Daily Activities

### Included Activities

Visit the stunning Queulat National Park and take a trek through the 'Enchanted Forest' to view the magnificent Hanging Glacier

Included

## Day 53 - Futaleufu (5th April 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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Today we continue to the rafting mecca of Futaleufú, a frontier town on the northern end of the Carretera Austral, bordering Argentina. The Rio Futaleufú is one of the premier white water rafting rivers in the world, but the town is also a great spot for mountain biking, trekking and canyoning.

## Day 54 - Futaleufu (6th April 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

We have time in Futaleufu to relax and enjoy the surroundings or to do optional activities.

### Daily Activities

#### Optional Activities

Head out for an exhilarating rafting or kayaking trip on the Grade 5 white water rapids near Futaleufú (if time allows)

2-6 hours. 5 pax minimum: 65,000 CLP

## Day 55 - Bariloche (7th April 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

Today we continue our journey to the picturesque town of Bariloche in Argentina's Lake District. We will see a definite change in the landscape today as the vegetation becomes more lush and green as we come out of the Patagonia region and into the forests of the Lake District.

## Day 56 - Bariloche (8th April 2021)

We will have a free day to enjoy the beautiful mountain town of Bariloche and the stunning surrounding lakes, mountains and forests. We have options to explore the area by foot, mountain bike, kayak or boat.

### Daily Activities

#### Optional Activities

Horse riding around Bariloche

Half day riding: 1,750 ARS

Discover the incredible scenery of the Nahuel Huapi Lake and the Victoria Islands on a boat trip from Bariloche

Full day trip: 1,800 ARS

Hire mountain bikes to explore the forests and hills surrounding Lake Nahuel Huapi and Bariloche

Full day hire, including helmet: 900 ARS

Explore the nearby Lago Gutierrez and take in its amazing views from the water on a half-day tandem kayaking trip

1/2 day: 790 ARS

Visit the interesting Fenoglio Chocolate Museum in Bariloche and learn all about the town's tradition of chocolate making

Entrance: 200 ARS

## Day 57 - Pucon (9th April 2021)

Border information: Exit Argentina at Mamuil Malal, enter Chile at Mamuil Malal.

Today we journey through the Andes into Chile and continue to the town of Pucón via the scenic Ruta de los Siete Lagos (Seven Lakes Route).

## Day 58 - Pucon (10th April 2021)

We will have a free day in Pucón to enjoy a range of optional activities, including a sunrise expedition to climb the Villarica volcano which looms over Pucón, heading out horse riding through the surrounding forests, or an evening



visit to the nearby natural hot springs.

## Daily Activities

### Optional Activities

Trek up the snowcapped volcano Mt Villarica

Chairlift : 10,000 CLP

Tour: 95,000 CLP

Explore the spectacular Lake District near Pucón by mountain bike

Full day hire : 10,000 CLP

Take part in a fantastic canyoning expedition through the gorges of the Chilean Lake District near Pucón

Canyoning tour: 25,000 CLP

Horseriding or hikes around Pucon

Horse riding (3hrs): 35,000 CLP

Explore the stunning views and hiking trails of the nearby Huerquehue National Park

Entrance to NP and public bus fare : 7,000 CLP

Head on an exciting white-water rafting trip on the rapids of the Trancura River near Pucón

Rafting : 25,000 CLP

Relax in the soothing waters of the Pozones natural hot springs

Entrance : 12,000 CLP

Learn all about Pucón and the history of its people on a free walking tour of the town

Tips only : Free

## Day 59 - Buchupureo (11th April 2021)

**Meals:** Lunch, Dinner

Today we will leave the Chilean Lake District behind and head to the coast to the laid back, farming village of Buchupureo, where we can relax by the beach.

## Day 60 - Santiago (12th April 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

This morning we head into the wine region where we will make a stop at a vineyard for a wine tour and tasting. In the afternoon we continue our journey to the cosmopolitan Chilean capital of Santiago.

## Daily Activities

### Included Activities

Whet your palette during wine tasting at a vineyard in San Javier

Included

## Day 61 - Santiago (13th April 2021)

Border information: if you are joining in Santiago, you will most likely enter Chile at Santiago Arturo Merino Benítez International Airport (IATA code: SCL).

Welcome to Santiago, the cosmopolitan Chilean capital! There will be an important group meeting at 6:00pm at the joining hotel - please look out at the hotel reception for a note from your leader with more details about this important meeting.

### Daily Activities

#### Optional Activities

Discover all of Santiago's sights on a hop-on/hop-off bus around the city

Tour: 21,000 CLP

Santiago Museums

Entrance : 3,500 CLP

Take in the breathtaking vista of the city skyline backdropped by the mighty Andes from the viewpoints at Cerro San Cristobal or Cerro San Lucia

Cable car: 2,500 CLP

## Day 62 - Santiago (14th April 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

Today is a free day to explore the cosmopolitan Chilean capital.

### Daily Activities

#### Optional Activities

Learn more about Santiago and its history on a free walking tour of the centre from a knowledgeable local guide

Tour: Free

## Day 63 - Mendoza (15th April 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

Border information:

Exit Chile at Paso Cristo Redentor, enter Argentina at Los Libertadores.

Today we will drive over the stunning Cristo Redentor pass in the high Andes, passing Aconcagua (the highest mountain in the Southern Hemisphere) and heading to the Argentine wine capital of Mendoza, nestled in the dry flats underneath the shadows of the largest mountains of the Andes.

Mendoza is the centre of Argentine wine production, and one of the nine 'Wine Capitals of the World' - it is especially famous for its Malbec, grown at some of the highest-altitude vineyards to be found in the world.

## Day 64 - Mendoza (16th April 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

Today we will have a free day to explore the incredible region, head out on various adventure activities, or of course take a tour of some of the many wineries in the region.

### Daily Activities

## Optional Activities

Take a mountain biking trip through the dramatic landscapes of the Andean foothills near Mendoza

Biking: 1,000 ARS

Mendoza Climbing

Half Day Climbing: 1,200 ARS

Full day climbing: 2,100 ARS

Go for a horse ride through the arid foothills west of Mendoza

Full Day Riding: 1,400 ARS

White water rafting on the Mendoza River

Full Day Rafting: 1,750 ARS

Half Day Rafting: 700 ARS

Mendoza Trekking

Half Day Trek: 500 ARS

Half day trek with abseil: 700 ARS

Explore the vineyards of the Mendoza and Maipu region either on an organised tour or by cycling between the bodegas

Bike tour: 950 ARS

## Day 65 - Cordoba (17th April 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

Today we have a full days drive to the bustling city of Cordoba.

## Day 66 - Estancia (18th April 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

Today we will have a leisurely start to the day, with time to explore Cordoba. After lunch we will complete our drive to the Estancia.

## Daily Activities

### Included Activities

Spend 3 unique days at an Anglo-Argentinian estancia to experience the Gaucho way of life

Included

## Day 67 - Estancia (19th April 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today and tomorrow we will head out horseback riding. This is a magical experience in a beautiful location, and many people's highlight of the trip! Please note that some of these activities are subject to weather conditions.

Please also note that there is a strict weight limit of 15 stone (210lbs) or 95kg to partake in the horse riding - if you should weigh more than this, then unfortunately you will not be able to participate in the horseback riding.

## Day 68 - Estancia (20th April 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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Full day at the Estancia.

### Day 69 - Tafi Del Valle (21st April 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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Today we will drive north across the lush flat pampas and start climbing into the drier mountains.

### Day 70 - Cafayate (22nd April 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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Today we will have an included visit to the ancient ruins of the indigenous city of Quilmes en route, then arrive in the serene town of Cafayate.

#### Daily Activities

##### Included Activities

Visit the Quilmes ruins

Included

### Day 71 - Cafayate (23rd April 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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Free day to explore Cafayate. This small unassuming town is the centre of one of Argentinas's principal wine producing regions, famous for the quality of its Torrontes and Tannat wines! We will have the opportunity to go to a few of the vineyards nearby to see how the wine is made, and of course to try them!

#### Daily Activities

##### Optional Activities

Discover the bodegas and stock up on wine in Cafayate

Wine tasting: 150 ARS

### Day 72 - Salta (24th April 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

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Today we will drive through the spectacular rock formations of the Quebrada de las Conchas, and reach the beautiful colonial town of Salta.

#### Daily Activities

##### Included Activities

Visit the impressive rock formations of 'El Amphiteatro' and 'La Garganta del Diablo' en route through the primeval landscape of the Quebrada de las Conchas

Included

### Day 73 - Salta (25th April 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

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Today we will have a free day to explore Salta, visit its many museums, or explore the beautiful surrounding hills on foot or by mountain bike. We will also have the chance to take the cable car to the viewpoint on San Bernardo Hill overlooking the town, or take the famous 'Train to the Clouds' through some of the incredible mountain scenery nearby.

## Daily Activities

### Optional Activities

Explore the beautiful mountains and forests near Salta on a mountain biking trip

The Bull circuit: 1,300 ARS

Rainforest Circuit: 900 ARS

Downhill Cuesta del Obispo: 2,000 ARS

Bike Rental (full day): 600 ARS

Salta Museums

Entrance per museum approx: 40 ARS

Go trekking in and around Salta

Rainforest Trek: 1,100 ARS

Urban Trek: 700 ARS

## Day 74 - San Pedro de Atacama (26th April 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

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Border information: Exit Argentina at Paso Jama, enter Chile at Paso Jama.

Today we will have a drive day to cross the mighty Andes, cross the border into Chile, and then descend all the way into the Atacama desert.

## Day 75 - San Pedro de Atacama (27th April 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

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Today we will have a free day to explore the incredible highlights of the Atacama desert surrounding San Pedro. In the evening we will take an included trip out to the extraordinary Moon Valley, where we will hopefully see an incredible sunset. At night we will also have the chance to go stargazing, in one of the world's premier regions for astronomy (please note that this is only possible when there is not a full moon).

## Daily Activities

### Included Activities

Explore the dramatic landscape of the Moon Valley

Included

### Optional Activities

Discover some of the interesting ancient ruins near San Pedro and the artifacts found in the area on an archaeological tour

Tour: 25,000 CLP

Hire a bike to explore the incredible deserts surrounding San Pedro de Atacama at your own pace

Half day: 5,000 CLP

Discover the incredible deserts of San Pedro on horseback

Riding: 13,500 CLP

Observe the night skies at a Chilean observatory

Tour: 25,000 CLP

Relax in the blissful natural volcanic hot springs of Puritama in the hills above San Pedro

Entrance: 15,000 CLP

## Day 76 - Altiplano (28th April 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

We will depart San Pedro de Atacama early today to drive to the world's highest Geyser field, at 4300m above sea level, the El Tatio Geysers are an impressive sight first thing in the morning. After time to explore, we will continue our journey into the Reserva Nacional Alto Loa, we will have plenty of opportunities for photographs along the way on this scenic drive.

Please note: The weather in this region can be unpredictable and has been known to close the road to the border. On these occasions we will take an alternate route across the Altiplano, crossing into either Chile or Argentina at a different border point. Your trip leaders will keep you informed of any changes that may be necessary.

### Daily Activities

#### Included Activities

Take the epic journey across the Altiplano - an incredible high-altitude adventure through a surreal desert landscape taking in bizarre rock formations and stunning lakes

Included

## Day 77 - Uyuni (29th April 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch

Border information: Exit Chile and enter Bolivia at Ollague

After breakfast we will break camp and cross the border into Bolivia. We will take our time to enjoy the views on the way to the town of Uyuni, the gateway to the incredible salt flats of the Salar de Uyuni.

## Day 78 - Uyuni (30th April 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch

Today we will venture out onto the salt flats of the Salar de Uyuni, spending a full day exploring this phenomenal location by jeep and on foot. En route we will explore the nearby train graveyard and the cactus-filled 'Fish Island', and take all the time we need to get plenty of perspective-bending photographs!

### Daily Activities

#### Included Activities

Take jeeps out onto the dazzling Uyuni Salt Flats

Included

## Day 79 - La Paz (1st May 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

Today we will drive north to La Paz, Bolivia's seat of government and the highest administrative capital in the world!

## Day 80 - La Paz (2nd May 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

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Today we will have a free day to make the most of the extraordinary city of La Paz, explore the witches market or take a mountain biking trip down the World's Most Dangerous Road.

## Day 81 - La Paz (3rd May 2021)

**Border information:** if you are joining in La Paz, you will most likely enter Bolivia at La Paz El Alto International Airport (IATA code: LPB).

Welcome to La Paz, Bolivia's seat of government and the highest administrative capital in the world! There will be an important group meeting at 6:00pm at the joining hotel - please look out at the hotel reception for a note from your leader with more details about this important meeting.

Please note that many of the options listed below will only be possible for those with extra time in La Paz before the start of your trip with us - please contact the Sales team if you would like to book pre-tour accommodation with us to have extra time exploring La Paz.

**A note on altitude:** If you are joining in La Paz, we strongly recommend arriving at least 24 hours before the trip begins to allow additional time to acclimatise.

## Daily Activities

### Optional Activities

Take a trip out to the mountain resort of Chacaltaya and the other-worldly landscape of the Moon Valley near La Paz

Full day tour: 130 BOB

Downhill "gravity assisted" mountain biking from La Paz to Coroico

Full day tour (not incl 50 BOB road fee): 125 USD

Discover Bolivia's history art and culture in some of La Paz's many museums such as the San Francisco Museum and the Museum of Ethnography

Entrance: 20 BOB

Guided tour to explore Tiahuanacu Inca Ruins

Full day tour: 220 BOB

Take a guided tour of the main sights and viewpoints around La Paz

City tour: 150 BOB

## Day 82 - Copacabana (4th May 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

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Today we will head to the beautiful town of Copacabana on the shores of Lake Titicaca, where we will have some time to explore.

## Day 83 - Isla del Sol (5th May 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch

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Today we will take an included day trip to Isla del Sol in Lake Titicaca, one of the holiest sites in ancient Inca mythology and supposedly the birthplace of the Sun God Inti. We will take a 14km walk across the length of the island, taking in the incredible and serene scenery and soaking up the calm atmosphere of the island (this walk can be skipped by anybody who does not want to do it).

## Daily Activities

### Included Activities

Stay overnight on Lake Titicaca's Isla del Sol and take a guided walk across the island

Included

## Day 84 - Puno (6th May 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Border information:** exit Bolivia at Kasani, enter Peru at Yunguyo.

Today we will take a boat back to Copacabana, and then cross the border into Peru and head to the lakeside town of Puno.

## Day 85 - Cuzco (7th May 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

Today we will leave Puno and head through the highlands of Peru to the former Inca capital of Cuzco.

## Day 86 - Cuzco (8th May 2021)

**Border information:** if you are joining in Cuzco, you will most likely enter Peru at Cuzco Alejandro Velasco Astete International Airport (IATA code: CUZ).

There will be an important group meeting at 10:00am at the joining hotel - please look out at the hotel reception for a note from your leader with more details about this important meeting. There will be a further meeting this evening for our Wild Andes and Classic Inca Trails, where we will have a full detailed briefing from our local trekking guides about the next few days!

The rest of today will be free to explore the wonderful city of Cuzco, discover its many historical gems, or to take part in number of optional activities near the city.

**A note on altitude:** if you are joining in Cuzco, we strongly recommend arriving at least 24 hours before the trip begins to allow additional time to acclimatise.

## Day 87 - Inca Trail (9th May 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

These four days will be spent either trekking in the Andes, on our pioneering Wild Andes Trek, on the Classic Inca Trek or for those not wishing to hike, free time to explore and a guided tour of the Sacred Valley on our Train package.

### Option 1 - Wild Andes Trek

Leaving Cuzco early in the morning, we visit the ruined temples of Sacsayhuaman for a fascinating tour of the site. We then head on to Chinchero, a small Quechua-speaking village in the Sacred Valley. Here we will see a traditional weaving demonstration that has been unchanged for a thousand years, and explore their beautiful archaeological ruins. We will drive to a stunning viewpoint for a picnic lunch, and then visit the Quillarumiyoc temple (the Temple of the Moon).

We will start our trek from here in the afternoon, heading by foot to Zurite where we have a picturesque stay in a colonial house. Tonight we will enjoy a traditional dinner and get a taste of the local village lifestyle.

Approximate walking distance: 8km, Estimated time: 4hrs, Meals provided: Lunch and Dinner

### Option 2 - Classic Inca Trek



This morning we go for a guided tour of the Sacred Valley, followed by a visit to the market town of Pisac, where we will have a lunch. We then head to Ollantaytambo, where we have free time to explore the impressive archeological site. Tonight we stay in a comfortable hotel.

Please note that we have the evening to ourselves in Ollantaytambo, our Guide will meet us in the morning.

No Meals are included in Ollantaytambo.

There is no trekking today.

### Option 3 - Train Package

You will leave Cuzco with your fellow passengers who will be trekking the Wild Andes Trek. You will visit the fortress of Sacsayhuaman, followed by a beautiful scenic drive over mountains and through valleys, via the ancient city of Pisac and on to the Sacred Valley of the Incas. After lunch you will head back to Cuzco where you will stay at our nice, centrally located hotel for a further 3 nights.

Meals included: Lunch

## Daily Activities

### Included Activities

Trekking Options:

Option 1 - Trek the Classic Inca Trail up the Royal Inca Road.

Option 2 - Hike unspoilt Inca Trails in remote stunning Andes scenery away from tourist treks on our exclusive Wild Andes trail.

Option 3 - Take a Sacred Valley Tour, visit Ollantaytambo and take the train to Machu Picchu without trekking.

PLEASE NOTE: YOU MUST ADVISE AT TIME OF BOOKING IF YOU WISH TO BOOK THE CLASSIC INCA TRAIL OR THE NON TREKKING OPTION, OTHERWISE YOU WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE PUT ON OUR WILD ANDES TREK.

Included

Visit the incredible remains of the Inca temple of Sacsayhuaman and the Sacred Valley on a guided tour

Included

## Day 88 - Inca Trail (10th May 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

### Option 1 - Wild Andes Trek

#### Zurite to Amaruwatana

After a hearty breakfast we leave Zurite and head towards Amaruwatana camp. The walk will take us through Qenteqentiyoc (the Hummingbird Temple), where we will visit and admire this Inca archaeological site. We will then follow the ancient path all the way to the top of our first pass at 4,400m, where we will have a dramatic view of both the Vilcabamba and Vilcanota mountain ranges. From here we start walking down on the way to our first camp in the Sambor Valley where we will spend the night camping.

Approximate walking time: 8hrs, Distance: 13kms, Meals provided: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

### Option 2 - Classic Inca Trek

#### Ollantaytambo to Wayllabamba

After breakfast, we catch a bus to Piscaycuscho and the start of the Classic Inca Trek - the railroad KM82 marker (at 2,700m altitude). Here we are joined by our crew of local porters and cooks. We will cross the bridge over the River Urubamba and following a trail along the left-hand shore of the river, enjoying stunning views of the snow-capped Mount Veronica (5,830m) and the Incan archaeological remains at Llactapata. Continuing through lush farmland and woodland, we gradually climb for approximately 5 hours to our first campsite at Wayllabamba (3,000m).

Approximate trekking time: 5-6hrs, Distance: 12kms, Meals provided: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, Snacks

### Option 3 - Train Package

Today is a free day to enjoy Cuzco, with its museums, churches, incredible colonial architecture, beautiful restaurants and a vast array of shops, selling textiles and handicrafts.

## Day 89 - Inca Trail (11th May 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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### **Option 1 - Wild Andes Trek**

#### **Amaruwatana to Ancascocha**

We have an early start this morning, trekking for approximately 2 hours to reach the top of our second pass at 4,700m. From here we have fantastic views of the rock formations below us, and if we're lucky we may spot Andean ibises, caracaras, eagles or foxes up here!

After descending for approximately 2 hours, we arrive at a stunning highland valley with a glacial river named Kenqo Mayu (meaning "Zig-zag River") flowing down it - which makes an idyllic stop for lunch!

After lunch we will continue trekking downhill following the ancient trail, which leads us to our campsite in the Ancascocha area.

Approximate trekking time: 6-7hrs, Distance: 10kms, Meals provided: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

### **Option 2 - Classic Trek**

#### **Wayllabamba to Pacaymayo**

This is the most challenging day of the trek as we ascend a long steep path (approximately 4 hours) through Andean cloud forest and highland puna to reach the highest point of our trek, Warmiwañusca (meaning "Dead Woman's Pass") at a height of 4,200m. During our ascent, we can appreciate the wide variety of plant, flower and bird species supported by this unique eco-climate. On reaching the pass, our challenge is rewarded by an astonishing panoramic view of the Vilcanota and Vilcabamba mountain ranges. From here we descend for 2 hours into the Pacaymayo Valley (3,650m altitude) and to our second campsite.

Approximate trekking time: 6-7hrs, Distance: 11kms, Meals provided: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, Snacks

### **Option 3 - Train Package**

Today is a free day for you to enjoy Cuzco, with its museums, churches, incredible colonial architecture, beautiful restaurants and a vast array of shops selling textiles and handicrafts.

## **Day 90 - Inca Trail (12th May 2021)**

**Meals:** Breakfast

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### **Option 1 - Wild Andes Trek**

#### **Ancascocha to Ollantaytambo**

Today we will descend the narrow Silque Canyon, allowing us to observe its tall granite walls which are populated by a large variety of orchids and bromeliads, filling the environment with magnificent colours when they bloom. After crossing many little bridges we will reach the Camicancha area, where we stop at a magnificent volcanic viewpoint looking towards the snow-capped Mt. Veronica.

From here it is only a short trek to Chilca, where our trail ends. We'll be picked up by our vehicle and head to Ollantaytambo, taking a well-earned shower and rest at our hotel.

In the afternoon we will have an included guided tour around the incredible archaeological site of Ollantaytambo and its world-famous Temple of the Sun.

Please note that we have the evening to ourselves in Ollantaytambo, our Guide will meet us in the morning. No Meals are included in Ollantaytambo.

### **Option 2 - Classic Inca Trek**

#### **Pacaymayo to Wiñay Wayna**

Today we follow ancient stone paths and steps to ascend the well-preserved Inca remains of Runkurakay, Sayacmarca, and Phuyupatamarca (the "Town above the Clouds") where we can appreciate the Incas' complex architectural style and reverence of natural geography and beauty. Heading down the Andean slope, we reach our final night's camp by the Wiñay Wayna (meaning "Forever Young") ruins, with panoramic views of the valley below.

Approximate walking time: 8hrs, Distance: 16kms, Meals provided: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, Snacks

### **Option 3 - Train Package**

After being picked up from your hotel in the morning you will be driven to the fortress city of Ollantaytambo and our hotel for the night, the Tunupa Lodge. Here you will rejoin the Wild Andes Trekkers and your tour leader who will be arriving from their trek this afternoon.

## Daily Activities

### Included Activities

Take a guided tour of the fantastic Inca temples at Ollantaytambo

Included

## Day 91 - Cuzco (13th May 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

### Option 1 - Wild Andes Trek

#### Ollantaytambo - Machu Picchu - Cuzco

Today we will have an early start to catch the train to the small town of Aguas Calientes. From there, we will take a bus up the winding mountainside to the legendary ruined city of Machu Picchu - one of the world's most iconic sights! We have a guided tour with our expert local guide and there will be plenty of free time to explore this magical place.

In the afternoon we will head back to Ollantaytambo and then on to Cuzco, where we return to our joining hotel at the end of a long but phenomenal day!

Meals provided: Breakfast

### Option 2 - Classic Trek

#### Wiñay Wayna to Machupicchu

Leaving Wiñay Wayna, we descend gradually further through the highland jungle to our destination - Intupunku (the "Sun Gate") leading into Machu Picchu. Arriving at daybreak, we catch our first breathtaking view of this historical wonder. As with the Wild Andes Trek, our local guide will show us the most important constructions as well as explain the history and the mythology of this magnificent place. There is also some free time to explore the ruins further at your own pace or just chill out and watch the hummingbirds or vizcachua. In the afternoon we head back down to Aguas Calientes and take the train back to Ollantaytambo and return to Cuzco for a well-deserved rest.

Approximate walking time: 2hrs, Distance: 4kms, Meals provided: Breakfast, Snacks

### Option 3 - Train Package

After an early breakfast and walk to the train station, your stunning 2 hour train ride to Aguas Calientes begins. The journey takes you through several different micro-climates, past Inca terraces, lookout posts, ancient river bank reinforcements and small towns. You will get a glimpse of different temples and the beautiful Mount Veronica (5,750m). Passing through 8 tunnels, the train journey finally comes to an end in the busy pueblo, Aguas Calientes. From here you take a local bus that winds up the mountainside for about 30 minutes until you arrive at the entrance to Machu Picchu (2,400m), the awe inspiring 'Lost City of the Incas'. The guide will take you around the immense, mystical ruins for about 2 hours to 2 hours 30 minutes, explaining the rich history of the ancient site. Afterwards, you will have time to explore on your own before returning down the mountain to Aguas Calientes.

In the afternoon you will catch a train from Aguas Calientes to Ollantaytambo and a private transfer will take you back to your hotel in Cuzco.

Meals provided: Breakfast

## Daily Activities

### Included Activities

Guided visit to the fabled Incan citadel of Machu Picchu

Included

## Day 92 - Cuzco (14th May 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

Today is a free day to relax after the treks, further explore the historical city of Cuzco, and take part in some optional activities around the city.

## Daily Activities

### Optional Activities

Take part in a Peruvian cooking class in Cuzco learning how to make a variety of local dishes

Class: 79 USD

Explore Cuzco on a free walking tour

Tour: Free

Visit one of Cuzco's excellent museums

Entrance : 22 PEN

Take a Spanish class in the beautiful city of Cuzco (suitable for all levels)

1hr private Class: 20 USD

## Day 93 - Raqchi (15th May 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will drive south to the small village of Raqchi. Here we will stay at a homestay as guests of the local villagers in their traditional family homes. The houses are very clean and have basic facilities.

This afternoon we will visit the Inca ruins of the Temple of Wiracocha at Raqchi, and then see a pottery demonstration at a local artisan centre. This evening the villagers will invite us to take part in a traditional Quechua religious ceremony, and we'll have some lively music from some of the village's musicians.

### Daily Activities

#### Included Activities

Quechua Indian homestay and community crafts project

Included

Guided visit to the Raqchi ruins

Included

## Day 94 - Chivay (16th May 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

Today we will drive through the stunning landscapes of the Peruvian highlands to the small town of Chivay, where we can have an optional trip to the nearby hot springs in the evening.

### Daily Activities

#### Optional Activities

Visit the thermal springs in Chivay

Entrance: 15 PEN

## Day 95 - Arequipa (17th May 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

This morning we will head out on a short drive to some of the best viewpoints along the spectacular Colca Canyon, one of the deepest canyons in the world! The canyon is famous for its resident condors, and we will spend a good amount of time at the viewpoints to give ourselves the best chance of spotting them. We will also visit a couple of local communities on the way back to Chivay.

After lunch in Chivay, we will drive to the beautiful 'White City' of Arequipa.

## Daily Activities

### Included Activities

Guided trip to see Colca Canyon and Andean condors

Included

## Day 96 - Arequipa (18th May 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

For the next two days we will enjoy free time to independently explore the colonial city of Arequipa, or to take part in some optional activities in and around the city.

## Daily Activities

### Optional Activities

Take a fascinating cooking class in Arequipa learning how to create some iconic Peruvian cuisine and taking a tour of the nearby food markets

Class and market tour: 150 PEN

Explore the Museo Santuario Andinos

Entrance: 20 PEN

Head out for an exciting morning of white-water rafting on the Chili River near Arequipa

Rafting: 35 USD

Take a 'Reality Tour' of Arequipa - a walking tour with an alternative focus on the daily lives of the local people and contemporary issues facing modern Peru

Tour cost for 1 pax (75 PEN per pax if 2 pax, 70 PEN per pax if 3 or more pax): 150 PEN

Guided tour of Arequipa's Santa Catalina convent

Entrance: 40 PEN

## Day 97 - Arequipa (19th May 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

Second free day to explore Arequipa.

## Day 98 - Puerto Inca (20th May 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will continue our drive and head all the way downhill to the Pacific coastal resort of Puerto Inca.

## Day 99 - Nazca (21st May 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch

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This morning we head north to the world-famous village of Nazca, the location of the mysterious Nazca Lines. We will have an included visit to the nearby ancient sites of the Chauchilla Cemetery and the Cahuachi Pyramid, thought to have once been the religious centre of the Nazca civilisation.

In the afternoon, we will have the opportunity to take an optional 30-minute flight over the Nazca Lines in a small aircraft - this is by far the best way of seeing the figures, and we use a local operator with an excellent safety record. The Nazca Lines are a series of figures, lines, and geometric shapes that were etched into the ground of the desert plateau over a thousand years ago by the ancient Nazca culture, and their purpose is still unknown to this day.

## Daily Activities

### Included Activities

Visit the incredible ancient Nazca sites of the Chauchilla Cemetery

Included

### Optional Activities

Fly over the Nazca lines

Scenic flight (not incl 35 PEN airport tax): 120 USD

## Day 100 - Huacachina (22nd May 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

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Today we continue north, stopping at a viewing platform to get a glimpse of some of the Nazca Lines.

We will arrive at the stunning desert oasis town of Huacachina, where we have the option to head out for an evening of sand boarding and dune bugging.

## Daily Activities

### Optional Activities

Visit to the Nazca Lines viewing tower

Entrance: 3 PEN

Dune bugging or boarding in the spectacular sand dunes of Peru Desert

Dune buggy and sandboard: 20 USD

## Day 101 - Lima (23rd May 2021)

Today we will drive the short distance to Paracas and board one of the local boats for an included trip to the Ballestas Islands to view its incredible array of resident wildlife and birds.

After lunch, we will continue north to arrive at the chaotic Peruvian capital of Lima.

## Daily Activities

### Included Activities

Boat trip to see the seals & seabirds on the Ballestas Islands

Included

## Day 102 - Lima (24th May 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Border information:** if finishing in Lima, you will most likely exit Peru at Lima Jorge Chavez International Airport (IATA code: LIM).

Today is the end day for passengers finishing their trip in Lima. Please note there is no accommodation included on the trip tonight - please contact your sales agent if you are interested in booking extra nights of accommodation in order to fully explore and take part in some of the optional activities listed below.

Accommodation:

### Daily Activities

#### Optional Activities

Take a ceviche and pisco sour class at one of the top restaurants in Miraflores a lively district of Lima

Ceviche class: 40 USD

Explore the bohemian areas of Barranco and Miraflores on a cycling tour of Lima

Cycle tour: 50 USD

Visit the beautiful Baroque cathedral of San Francisco in Lima's historical centre and explore the morbidly fascinating catacombs underneath

Entrance: 15 PEN

See the incredible 'Magic Water Circuit' in Lima's Parque de la Reserva an astounding evening display of water music light images and laser effects across 13 huge water fountains

Entrance: 4 PEN

## ITINERARY DISCLAIMER

The routes, activities and places visited described in these notes are intentions and are meant as a rough guide only. By their very nature, overland itineraries need to be flexible and the regions that we are travelling through are often unpredictable. We intend to follow the planned route but exact night stops and inclusions cannot be guaranteed and it sometimes happens that we decide to make a change to our planned itinerary. This may be for a variety of reasons; climatic, road or bureaucratic conditions may demand it. Changes to the itinerary may occur with little notice so please be prepared for modifications to your trip.

#### Drive Times

Drive times are listed in the day-to-day itinerary. These are the approximate number of hours that the vehicle will be in motion, and does not include any time taken for coffee or lunch stops, border crossings, photo stops, activities en route, comfort breaks, shopping stops, toilet stops, etc. The times given are approximate estimates only and whilst given with the best of intentions, the drive times are heavily dependent on traffic, road conditions, weather, police roadblocks, and many other factors.

#### Accommodation and Meals Included

The type of accommodation and included meals are listed for each day of the itinerary. These listings show our intention and on most departures the listings will be accurate. However due to the flexible nature of overland itineraries, climatic, bureaucratic or road conditions may demand changes to our listed intentions or groups may simply decide to amend the plans from time to time.

#### Optional Activities

A selection of optional activities is listed in the day-to-day itinerary. This list is designed to be a helpful guide as to what is commonly available in each location, and is neither an exhaustive list, a guarantee that the activity is available, or an endorsement or recommendation. Certain activities may not be available on your particular visit and it may not be possible to do all the activities listed in the time available at each destination. It is recommended to give yourself extra time in your joining or ending city if you would like to participate in some optional activities there. Prices listed are for entrance only and do not include transport costs to and from the sites or local guides unless indicated. The prices are displayed according to our latest information and in the best faith, but prices do fluctuate due to exchange rates, season, numbers of participants, and simple increases from the operator, and therefore any prices listed are a guide only and cannot be guaranteed. If you partake in any optional activities, you do so at your own risk and it must be clearly understood that your participation is your own decision and does not form part of your contract with Dragoman. You may be required to sign/complete a waiver form or optional activity form for some optional activities. For more information around activity safety and insurance, please see the Essential Information document.

## EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

In the event of a real emergency once you have left your home country, please contact us on our out of office hours number. If you cannot get through on the phone, please leave a message with your name, reference number, contact details and a message with the help that you need and we will get back to you. Please bear in mind that real progress or action may not be possible until normal office hours, depending on the issue.

If your flight is delayed, please inform us as soon as you can and then make your way to the joining hotel as instructed in the Joining Point section of these notes.

**Out of hours Number: +44 (0) 7985 106564**

## A FEW RULES

We expect all group members to act respectfully towards our staff and other group members. Bullying will not be tolerated.

Engaging in commercial or exploitative sexual activities, committing acts of violence or threatening violence towards local people, other group members or any member of our staff is not allowed. Any customer engaging in such activities will be required to leave the trip immediately with no refund of the trip price.

You must at all times comply with the laws, customs, foreign exchange and drug regulations of all countries visited and conduct yourself in accordance with our responsible travel policy. Any customer found contravening such laws or regulations will be required to leave the trip immediately with no refund of the trip price.

Although we are aware that in some parts of the world taking, carrying or selling drugs, or carrying weapons may be legal, it is not acceptable for Dragoman customers and our tour leaders have the right to ask you to leave the trip immediately with no refund of the trip price if you are found to be engaging in such activities.

## ISSUES ON THE TRIP

While we always endeavour to provide the best possible holiday experience, due to the nature of travel and the areas we visit sometimes things can and do go wrong. Should any issue occur while you are on your trip, it is imperative that you discuss this with your group leader or our local partner straight away so that they can do their best to rectify the problem and save any potential negative impact on the rest of your trip.

We recognise that there may be times when your group leader may not be able to resolve a situation to your satisfaction. If this is the case please contact our customer relations department on [customer-relations@dragoman.co.uk](mailto:customer-relations@dragoman.co.uk).

You may also choose to provide details in your feedback questionnaire which we ask you to complete at the end of your trip, but we do ask you to be aware that it is very difficult for us to provide any practical help after the trip is complete.

## IMPORTANT NOTES

### OVERLANDING LIFESTYLE

Dragoman was founded in 1981, and has had many years of experience of leading overland trips across 4 continents. Overlanding is all about sharing a great travelling experience with like-minded people. On your trip you'll travel in one of Dragoman's purpose-built iconic expedition vehicles on an off-the-beaten-track adventure along rugged roads, experiencing the sights, sounds and smells of the world up-close. Your journey will be overland, sometimes across vast distances, so some long days spent driving are inevitable - but these will be interspersed with breaks of a day or two at a destination or activity.

On an overland journey, you are more than just a passenger and everyone gets involved setting up camp - we supply the tent but it's up to you to pitch it! As part of your trip, you will be assigned a truck job which could be collecting firewood or water, luggage loading, organising food, stores, etc. Like all great adventures, the more you put in the more you'll get out! For more details of how an overlanding trip works, please see the Essential Information document.

### SAFETY STANDARDS

We run adventure journeys in off the beaten track areas, which often have poor infrastructure. You should expect that some of these areas do not adhere to 'Western' safety standards. For more information, please see the Essential Information document

### MEDICAL ASSISTANCE IN REMOTE AREAS

We will be travelling to areas in remote locations where medical assistance will not be available, and communications may be sparse. We do not carry satellite phones on our regular trips. Therefore, if you have a medical condition such as a heart condition that would put you at risk, we would suggest that this is not the trip for you. Also, please be aware that should an emergency occur, there is likely to be a considerable delay in accessing medical care, and by joining our trip you accept this risk.



## VISAS, HEALTH, INSURANCE & MONEY

Before you travel there are vital things to consider such as:

- Any visas needed for your trip
- Any vaccinations needed (please consult your GP or travel clinic)
- Organising your local payment (the kitty)
- Buying travel insurance (insurance is compulsory to be allowed to join our trips)

For more information on these topics, please see the Essential Information Document.

## ALTITUDE WARNING

### **Warning - this trip goes above 2800m.**

Please note that this trip spends time above 2800 metres/9200 feet where it is possible for travellers to experience some adverse effects on your health due to the altitude, potentially including Acute Mountain Sickness (AMS), High Altitude Cerebral Edema (HACE) and High Altitude Pulmonary Edema (HAPE). Because of this it is very important that you make yourself aware of the cause and effects of travelling at altitude and monitor your health during this trip.

For further information please [download our AMS information sheet](#) or refer to the following website: [www.high-altitude-medicine.com](http://www.high-altitude-medicine.com). If you are starting your trip in a destination above 2800m/9200ft we strongly advise reading this information prior to arrival. Your leader will also hand you a copy of the AMS information sheet during your trip as well as holding a short meeting prior to travelling to altitudes above 2800m/9200ft for the first time.

**Some travel insurance companies will stipulate a maximum altitude limit. Please ensure that you are covered and if necessary pay the additional premium of extended cover.**

## HIGH ALTIPLANO NOTE

Because of its nature, this itinerary may vary – occasionally the road conditions are too adverse during the rainy season (January-February) to make the crossing from Uyuni to Argentina, and we may have to change the route.

During the winter months in Argentina and Bolivia, we will spend a higher proportion of nights in hotels and less time camping. Kitty may be higher than expected and you should allow extra funds for this and personal funds for more meals out. There may well be snow and you should be aware that it can get very cold at night. Please ensure that you bring a decent sleeping bag and adequate clothes, including thermals.

We will also be travelling to very high altitudes (over 5,000m if you take the crossing from Uyuni to Argentina or vice versa), so please be aware of the effects of altitude sickness.

## PATAGONIA NOTES

This trip will be travelling to the southernmost point of South America, and you should expect extreme weather conditions. It can be bitterly cold and very windy with heavy rain at any time of the year, even during the summer. The weather changes extremely fast so you should expect four seasons' weather in one day. Therefore please remember to prepare accordingly – this is a tough trip and should not be taken lightly.

We suggest you take plenty of good quality warm, waterproof and windproof clothing and use the layering system to keep warm. As you will spend a number of nights camping, we recommend you bring a good camping mat, a good quality 4 season sleeping bag, a sleeping bag liner and a small pillow to keep comfortable.

Patagonia's peak season is the summer (Mid November to February). The days are long, typically temperatures are around 20°C during the day, dropping to 8°C at night, though whilst generally warm in the summer, it can often be very windy, with rain. If you are travelling during the peak season be aware that activities and camp sites sell out fast and you will be sharing the trails with a greater number of fellow trekkers. Please note that due to the popularity of the region, we also find that prices can increase significantly during high season.

In the shoulder season the days are much colder, but often clearer and brighter, with fewer people on the trails, though be aware that some activities may not have opened fully. Springtime (October to November) brings the colourful spring blooms. March to May is the best time to see the autumn foliage and makes for stunning photographs. If you choose to travel at this time, be sure to pack a good down jacket and a 4 season sleeping bag and liner, as the nights can be very cold. During the shoulder season there is an option to upgrade into basic cabins or hostels at some of the campsites that we stay in along the way. Please budget an extra USD10-15 per night for such upgrades.

## THE W WALK

We include the full 4 day W walk in Torres del Paine NP as standard in our kitty. This includes transfers to the start and finish points, camping equipment, full board and the services of an English speaking local guide throughout the trip.

The W walk involves 4 days of trekking and 3 overnight stays away from the truck. Your tents will be set up at pre-booked campsites at Paine Grande, Los Cuernos and Las Torres, and meals included. It is important to bear in mind that you will have to carry your own personal effects for the duration of the trek, e.g. sleeping mat, sleeping bag, clothes, toiletries, snacks, water, etc. Some days of the W walk can be shortened for those wishing to trek slightly shorter distances, for example on Day 2 it is possible to trek to the first view point and return to Paine Grande via the same route, reducing the trek by half. It is possible to hire porters for the W walk at a cost of CLP150,000 per porter. Their maximum load is 15kg. We recommend that you put your bag into a waterproof liner or dry sack before giving it to a porter. In high season (mid November to mid March) we recommended contacting your travel consultant to book your porter in advance.

For anyone who wishes to stay at our base camp, this can be arranged in advance through your travel consultant. This package will include camping and full board at our base camp at Camping Pehoe, as well as the opportunity to join the W walkers for guided single day hikes to Glacier Grey and the Las Torres viewpoint. Transfers will be provided your crew in the truck.

Please note that the price is the same whether you choose to stay at the base camp, or take part in the full W walk; however in order for us to make arrangements for meal provisions, you must tell us in advance if you will not be trekking the W walk.

## THE WILD ANDES TREK, CLASSIC INCA TREK AND TRAIN PACKAGE - MORE INFORMATION

### THE WILD ANDES TREK

Dragoman first developed and launched their pioneering **Community Trek**, the **Tarpuy Yachay project**, in 2006 - a fantastic, award-winning alternative to the Classic Inca Trek, the project also helped several educational and sustainable development initiatives in the Andean villages of Quishuarani and Cuncani.

After almost a decade of this successful venture, we decided that our support could be better used in a new area. In 2013, Dragoman developed an exclusive, brand new Community Trek to take our passengers really off the beaten track, to enjoy pure, unspoilt Andean trails, explore remote Inca ruins, whilst at the same time finding new ways to 'give back' to the people of the area. We have done this by funding the release of alpaca herds, offering training to local people in animal husbandry and weaving to provide a source of income. Another aspect of this project has been reforestation, which is crucial for preventing landslides to protect the local area.

In 2016, we decided to rename our Community Trek "the **Wild Andes Trek**", because we feel it better represents the trek we run. However, nothing has changed but the name - Dragoman's firm commitment to genuine, responsible tourism continues as it always has, so rest assured that whilst you take to the mountains your money is supporting local people. The Wild Andes Trek follows the same route that we have been following since 2013, which boasts some of Peru's most spectacular and remote mountain scenery.

### THE CLASSIC TREK

Of course if you prefer, there is also the option to complete the Classic Inca Trek, so called, because the trek follows the old royal route to Machu Picchu. Over the course of four days you will trek over 40km through farmland, cloud forest and mountain scenery, the trek culminates on the final morning where you will rise early to trek to Intipunku, better known as the Sun Gate, where you will catch your first glimpse of Machu Picchu. Here we can take our time to watch the mist clear over the Citadel, and walk down to the site and have some time to enjoy it before we have our guided tour.

### THE TRAIN PACKAGE

For those of you who would prefer to take Machu Picchu at a gentler pace, we offer our non-trekking, Train Package. As part of this package you will enjoy a guided tour of Sacsayhuaman and the Sacred Valley, followed by 2 days to relax or explore Cuzco at your own pace. Finally you will transfer to Ollantaytambo where you will spend the night in a lovely hotel and have time to explore the fascinating and impressive fortress here. Our your final morning you will take the train to Aguas Calientes, and then onwards to Machu Picchu for your tour and free time to explore.

### GENERAL

Whichever option you choose, you are sure to have an unforgettable experience at one of the most impressive and iconic World Heritage Sites.

The kitty has been budgeted to include the cost of the Classic Inca Trek as this is the most expensive option. This means that you will receive a small kitty refund if you do the Wild Andes Trek, and a substantial kitty refund if you do the Train Package.

All three trekking groups will return to Cuzco by train and private transfer. Please note that during high season or in the case of late bookings, some trekkers may be booked onto a later train. You will always have a Guide to accompany you back to Cuzco but you should be prepared for a later arrival.

PLEASE NOTE: You must tell us at the time of booking if you want to book the Classic Inca Trek or the Train Package. If you do not tell us this you will automatically be booked onto the Wild Andes Trek.

In order to book the relevant permits and tickets, it is vital that you provide the following information at the time of booking:

- Full name (EXACTLY as it appears in the passport you are travelling on)
- Date of Birth
- Gender
- Passport Number

- Passport Expiry Date

Please be sure that all the details are correct and are for the same passport on which you will travel to Peru - any changes made after your application is submitted may not be granted and will involve fees being charged to you. Changes to name and nationality after your application is submitted are absolutely not allowed, so please ensure no changes of this sort will be needed.

There is an overlap for the Inca treks. This means a group starting a trip in Lima or La Paz will do the Inca trek at the same time as a group starting their trip in Cuzco. This means there could be several groups on the Inca trek at the same time.

## INCLUSIONS

<b>Wild Andes Trek</b>	<b>Classic Inca Trek</b>	<b>Train Package</b>
Professional bi-lingual Guides	Professional bi-lingual Guides	Professional bi-lingual Guides
Guided tour of Sacsayhuaman, Ollantaytambo and Machu Picchu	Guided tour of Sacsayhuaman, Ollantaytambo and Machu Picchu	Guided tour of Sacsayhuaman, Ollantaytambo and Machu Picchu
All transport between Cuzco and Machu Picchu	All transport between Cuzco and Machu Picchu	All transport between Cuzco and Machu Picchu
Return Train from Ollantaytambo to Aguas Calientes	Return Train from Ollantaytambo to Aguas Calientes	Return Train from Ollantaytambo to Aguas Calientes
One night accommodation in Ollantaytambo	One night accommodation in Ollantaytambo	Three nights accommodation in Cuzco and one night accommodation in Ollantaytambo
Entrance to Machu Picchu	Entrance to Machu Picchu	Entrance to Machu Picchu
High quality double-occupancy tents, sleeping mat and camping equipment	High quality double-occupancy tents, sleeping mat and camping equipment	
Hot water in the morning for washing	Hot water in the morning for washing	
Drinking water throughout the trek	Drinking water throughout the trek	
Dining tent, kitchen tent, latrine tent	Dining tent, kitchen tent, latrine tent	
First Aid Kit and Oxygen	First Aid Kit and Oxygen	
Team of Camp staff, Porters and Cooks	Team of Camp staff, Porters and Cooks	
All camping meals (vegetarian and gluten free meals can be catered for)	All camping meals (vegetarian and gluten free meals can be catered for)	
Pack animals and emergency horse in case of injury		

## BENEFITS OF THE WILD ANDES TREK

- Protecting the environment - reducing the number of people travelling on the Classic route to minimise the impact on these ancient paths.
- Responsible Tourism - providing funding for reforestation of the area, to reduce landslides.
- Sustainable - providing funding to introduce Alpacas and training in animal husbandry and weaving to create a sustainable source of income from the animals
- Trekking virtually deserted routes, with no other tourists - so you are free to enjoy the surroundings without feeling rushed or crowded
- Arriving to Machu Picchu well rested and refreshed after a comfortable night in a hotel in Ollantaytambo - ready to get the most out of the visit to this unforgettable site. (NB we do not trek into Machu Picchu, we arrive by train and bus from Ollantaytambo)
- Time to explore the citadel of Machu Picchu, many group members chose to trek up to the Sun Gate to see the famous view, after their tour.
- Trekking a unique route in the Andes

## BENEFITS OF THE CLASSIC INCA TREK

- The original Royal route is still the most popular trek because of its history (trekking is limited to 500 people per day departing on the trek, which still can feel crowded at times)
- The Classic Trek is not quite as challenging as the Wild Andes Trek as the passes are not quite as high. That said, it is still a pretty tough and you will need to be reasonably fit.
- There are fantastic views of varied terrain from cloud forest to mountains.
- The Classic Trek culminates with a morning trek to the Sun Gate, where you will experience your first glimpse of Machu Picchu (this is the only trek to do this).

## TREKKING FITNESS

Trekking at altitude should not be undertaken lightly. Regardless of which trek you choose, you need to be in good health with good physical fitness to enjoy the experience. It is not about speed; trekking slowly is far better at altitude but you do need to have the stamina to keep going and altitude can have a negative impact on your general condition and physical performance. For your own safety you must accept that it is at the complete discretion of the professional trekking guides to decide if you are not fit enough to trek, whether it be before or during the trek. The Wild Andes Trek reaches 4,700 m in altitude when we cross one of the passes.

The trail can be steep and rocky but has few steps. The Classic Inca Trek has lots of steps and the highest pass is Dead Woman's Pass at 4,200 m. If you are in any doubt about your suitability to trek please consult your local doctor. We recommend arriving in Cuzco at least 24 hours prior to your trip starting (if you are joining in Cuzco). It is also important that you inform your trekking guides and Tour Leaders of any pre-existing medical issues, as well as any medications you may be taking, especially medication for altitude sickness.

## TREKKING - WHAT TO BRING

Tents, sleeping mats and all food and drinking water during the trek are provided, as well as duffle bags for your personal gear that you don't need to access during the trekking hours (such as sleeping bags and extra clothes). On the Wild Andes Trek your duffle bag will be carried by pack animals and on the Classic Trek your duffle bag will be carried by porters. Please note that there is therefore a strict weight limit of 6 kgs per bag. You will have to carry your own daypack with any items you need during the day.

You will need to be prepared for 4 seasons' weather in one day. Basically it will be cold after dark and in the mornings. During the night you will need to layer up with thermals and warm socks. In the morning when you've walked for a little while you will warm up and gradually strip off. Think layers! Wild Andes trekkers, you should also bring a set of clean clothes for the night you will spend in Ollantaytambo where you have hot showers and the evening meal out in a restaurant.

Some very useful things to bring:

- Daypack (less than 30 litres)
- Waterproof bag(s) to keep your stuff dry (bin liners or similar are fine)
- Warm sleeping bag (also available to rent from our local supplier)
- Sleeping bag liner (for extra insulation)
- Sleeping mat (only if you want extra insulation/padding as a mat will be provided)
- Walking stick (basic wooden sticks will be available to buy)
- Water bottle(s) with a total capacity of at least 2 litres
- Head torch or normal torch
- Small towel
- Camera (also charger, extra batteries and memory cards)
- Walking boots
- Light shoes or sandals (to allow your feet to relax and breathe during the evenings)
- Waterproofs
- Thermal underwear
- Warm socks
- Fleece or other warm sweater
- Woolly hat & gloves
- Sunglasses
- Sun hat
- Basic toiletries (lip salve, sun block, insect repellent, wet wipes, hand sanitizer, etc)
- Toilet paper + plastic bags to carry your used toilet paper with you (only needed during the trekking hours, at night a dug toilet with toilet paper will be provided)
- Basic medical kit (any personal medication, plasters, painkillers, etc)
- Pack of cards / book / game for evenings
- Money (for souvenirs, snacks, drinks, food, etc + tip for the guides and porters)
- PASSPORT + passport photocopy
- Cuzco Visitor's Ticket (this will be arranged for you by your tour leader)

We recommend a tip of US\$20 for your guide and perhaps US\$30 for all the rest of the staff.

## RESPONSIBLE TREKKING

Frostbite, altitude sickness and even death can be the cost for the guides and trekking staff. Tourism Concern has a campaign aimed to put a stop to the abuse of trekking staff's human rights. Equally pack animals suffer abuse and mistreatment. Mountain trekking is exhilarating and challenging, but how could many of us do it without the assistance of trekking staff? Once they have started a trek, trekkers are often horrified by the reality of the working conditions for the staff.

The prices that tour operators charge for trekking does vary enormously, mainly due to the rates of pay and conditions that the trekking crew receive. It is easy to book a trip based purely on price, but in the case of trips involving Inca trails, this will probably be because the tour operator is using local suppliers without regard to the treatment of porters and guides.

In keeping with our Responsible Tourism Policies, Dragoman has a strict Suppliers' Policy, which also covers our trekking partners. We follow Tourism Concern's policies on trekking companies and the way that guides, porters or animals are looked after. We therefore use a local Cuzco-based trekking company called Andina Travel to run all our Inca trails trekking trips. They have an

excellent trekking record and good, knowledgeable guides. They have been at the cutting edge of developing codes of responsible tourism practice and involving the local Quechuan communities in the development of their various treks. They supply us with evidence of their code of practice concerning their guides, staff and pack animals.

Please bear this in mind when deciding which travel company you will travel with. Remember many of the trekking organisations, as well as many overseas tour operators who use these suppliers, are happy to promote low cost trips, even if it is at the expense of the welfare of the guides and porters that they use.

## COMMUNITIES SUPPORTED

The communities that we support are remote Andean farming communities with traditions dating back to the Incas. They are primarily Quechua speaking, with some Spanish, and little contact with the general population. Their daily lives consist of potato cultivation, weaving, and the herding of llamas, alpacas, and sheep. Considered by the Peruvian government to be living in extreme poverty, they often face malnutrition, severely cold weather, poor hygienic conditions, and little medical or health assistance. Villagers live in thatched-roof stone huts and cook with firewood. Because of the disproportionate supply and demand of native trees and bush, there is a great need for an effective reforestation project in the area. Since 2006, Dragoman has worked with Ecoam (who helps us with our reforestation project) and thanks to the support from Dragoman and our passengers, the area we used to visit around Quishuarani, Cuncani and part of the mountain range of Lares has been declared a Private Landscape Reserve.

The fairly recent introduction of tourism to the region has brought some needed assistance and economic development to the communities, but there is still much more to do. Our local trekking operator working within the guidelines of sustainable tourism has met with the communities and discussed the pros and cons of tourism in the area. Together they have established still unofficial guidelines for trekking and tourism through the Cordillera such as: established campsites to avoid contamination of community areas, use of community animals and personnel on treks, training of community members through workshops on camp maintenance, hygiene, client service to enhance their economic viability, maintenance of camp trails, camp sites, and environmental conservation. Many agencies respect these guidelines, but because making things official often brings on unwanted government intervention, they are an informal agreement between the communities, agencies, and tourists.

## CARNIVAL NOTES

**Optional activities** - All optional activities need to be booked prior to arrival at Carnival and by 5th January 2019. This can be done by contacting Dragoman's sales team or your agent. More details can be found [here](#).

**Accommodation** - This is on a shared basis (twin or triple) with breakfast included daily but no other meals. All rooms are en-suite with air-conditioning, TV, fridge and safe. There is a single supplement available at an additional cost. Please enquire with your sales agent at the time of booking if you should wish to purchase the single supplement.

**Money changing** - Banks will be closed over most of Carnival but some money changers stay open although exchange rates are not always that good. Cash will give you the best exchange rates - usually USD, GBP and EUR are easily exchanged. Travellers Cheques are not generally accepted. American Express Office is open through Carnival for exchange. Cash machines are located nearby to the hotel but can run out of money, so plan in advance and be very aware of theft and fraud.

You may wish to consider bringing the following items with you to Rio Carnival:

- Binoculars to help see the detail of the parades at the Sambadrome
- A disposable raincoat (can also be bought in Rio)
- A compact camera
- A money belt

## BRAZIL NOTES

## ARGENTINA NOTES

## URUGUAY NOTES

## CHILE NOTES

## BOLIVIA NOTES

## PERU NOTES

Please ensure you have an up to date version of these notes. **These notes were printed on the 27th May 2020**