



## **15 Days Peru Professional Development Trip**

Lima, Jauja, Cusco, Sacred Valley, Machu Picchu & the  
Amazon Rainforest

**For; Michigan State University (Larry Olsen)**

Dates of travel; May 13 till May 27, 2016



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## WELCOME

Thank you for contacting SATO Travels for your upcoming trip to this amazing continent.

Please allow me to introduce us shortly. We at SATO Travels are an international team of travel experts with over ten years of experience, especially in South America. Within the website family one can find South America as well as Peru Travels Online, our specialty websites for travels to a combination of South American destinations or Peru respectively. All SATO Travels packages are customized and tailor made designed on the preferences of the specific traveler. In order to enable this we have, besides a large amount of experience, a well elaborated portfolio of products and services including accommodations, tours, excursions and transport all over the South American continent.

Our international team has its roots in Peru, Ireland and Belgium and can besides relying on years of living and working experience all over the South American continent, work with the great advantage of knowing and being present in the local tourist market. This makes that we know our destinations and services inside out and can combine this with a cultural sensitivity for both the host's and the visitor's expectations. Therefore any doubt you may have regarding traveling in South America, our team of experts will be glad to assist you throughout the entire process. For more information about the booking process, please [click here](#).

Our aim is to provide you with the vacation that matches your personal preferences and requirements and at the same time with the help of our inside knowledge, maximize your vacation experience with the time you have available.

With SATO Travels you will not be treated as part of a group but will have personal service from the moment you contact us until the moment you would end your vacation with us. Your personal Travel Consultant will help you create the perfect itinerary for a competitive price. During the time of traveling you will be assisted by our professional guides and drivers following up your itinerary in a punctual and professional manner.

Most important; our goal is to provide you with an unforgettable experience, and a truly memorable vacation. We take pride in doing this and you will find that our team manages high standards in order to comply with this.

Thanks again for contacting SATO Travels and we trust that you will have a wonderful time in this amazing continent, South America.

Kind Regards,

**Sepe Bleukx**

Sales Representative – SATO Travels

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## Proposed Itinerary

Please find below an itinerary based on our correspondence. All our Itineraries are completely customizable, if you wish to change any part please just let us know and we will be happy to do so.

### **May 13 – Arrive to Lima, pickup, transfer to your hotel and overnight.**

On arrival in Lima you will be picked up from the airport and taken in private transport to your hotel.

**Hotel Mariel;** Offering peaceful rooms, this modern 3-star superior hotel in Lima Miraflores district is just one block away from the Indian Handicraft markets, 2 blocks away from Central Kennedy Park and a few blocks from Larcomar. Located in a quiet side street, the Mariel Hotel is one of few hotels in Miraflores that enjoys easy access to a variety of restaurants, bars, and stores, which you can get to by foot. All en-suite rooms at the Mariel are decorated in warm color schemes. They are equipped with air conditioning and heating and each has a 32-inch LCD TV. Room service is also available. Mariel Hotel offers free Wi-Fi, laundry service, currency exchange counter, tourist information service and 3 modern computers which are free with high speed Wi-Fi for guests' use.



### **May 14 –Private Lima City Tour, Larco Herrera Museum & fountain park (Breakfast & Lunch).**

Being a large noisy and disorganized city, Lima may not be the reason for many people to come to Peru but nevertheless is essential in understanding the Peruvian society and country. Being such a big city, Lima is not a city one would understand after one day, not even after a year but it is a very fascinating place. Today we will take you on a half day city tour through Lima in order to give you some more ideas and impressions of the city that is called the “City of Kings”.



Accompanied by a professional English Speaking guide you will be picked up from your hotel and set off to “El Cercado de Lima” or the real city centre. Here is where you will see the famous Plaza San Martin and even more known Plaza de Armas with the Presidential Palace on one side and on the other the colonial cathedral. The Cathedral was commenced in 1635 by Francisco Pizarro himself.

He is said to have laid the first stone used in its construction and carried the first timbers used also. He personally inaugurated the Cathedral in 1640 although it has been extensively extended and improved since this date. The plaza has a very Mediterranean feel to it with the brightly painted buildings. Francisco Pizarro (c. 1475–June 26, 1541) was the Spanish conquistador, conqueror of the Inca Empire and founder of Lima as the La Ciudad de los Reyes. His Tomb can be found in the Cathedral to this day.

From the main square we will take you to visit the “Cerro San Cristobal” located just behind the city center. We will drive through the Rimac Barrio where you can also find the famous bullring of Lima as well as some of the older “Pueblos Jovenes” or Shantytowns of Lima. On San Cristobal Hill you will have a 360° view of this massive city – on a clear day you can see the Pacific Ocean from here as well as the first hills of the Andes Mountain Range.



After your visit to the Colonial centre, you will be taken for a visit to the more modern districts in Lima, San Isidro and Miraflores. San Isidro is the financial heart of Lima and hence Peru. Here you will visit the Olive Park from where you will continue to Miraflores for a view on the Huaca Pucllana, one of the few archeological sites in this part of town. From here you will drive through Miraflores and see the cliffs overlooking the Pacific Ocean. After these visits you will be taken back to your hotel.



After these visits you will be taken to a typical Lima restaurant for lunch. After lunch, following your tour of central Lima we will include a visit to the Larco Museum.



The Larco Museum (Museo Larco), founded in 1926, showcases remarkable chronological galleries providing an excellent overview on 3000 years of development of Peruvian pre-Columbian history. Located in a unique vice-royal mansion of the 18th century built over a 7th century pre-Columbian pyramid, it is surrounded by beautiful gardens. This museum features the finest gold and silver collection from Ancient Peru and the famous erotic archaeological collection, one of the most visited Peruvian tourist attractions.

Larco is one of the few museums in the world where visitors can also choose to enter the storage area with its 45.000 classified archaeological objects.



In the evening we will pick you up for a visit to the striking Magic Circuit of Water, located in the historic Reserve Park. It is the world's largest fountain compound and one of the newest icons of the city. A public site filled with colorful lights, wonderful gardens and melodious sounds and music, revealing the Peruvian national identity.



After this visit we will return to Miraflores and your hotel.

**May 15 – Transfer to the airport for your flight to Jauja (Breakfast).**

In the morning you will be collected from your hotel and taken in private transport to the Lima airport for your flight to Jauja.

**No arrangements have been included for Jauja or Huancayo.**

**May 16, 17 & 18 – Free days at leisure in and around Jauja / Marco.**

These days are free at leisure – **no services, meals or hotel overnights have been included.**

**May 19 – Flight to Lima connecting with your flight to Cusco and transfer to your hotel.**

In the morning you will have your flight to Lima where you will connect with your flight to Cusco. On arrival in Cusco you will be picked up by our representative and taken to your hotel in the city center.

**The Midori Hotel** is strategically located in the historic center of Cusco, a few steps from the Incan Museum and one block off the main plaza of the Imperial City. The Hotel is located in a large and beautiful colonial house. Midori has 24 comfortable and fully equipped rooms, as well as a dining room, lobby, and a well-trained and friendly staff. Room & hotel amenities include; safe, heating, Cable TV, Telephone, hair dryer, internet, room service, laundry service and luggage storage.



The rest of the day you have free to acclimatize to the altitude and enjoy the amazing Cusco city center on your own pace. Relax in the hotel, visit the Plaza de Armas or even head up to the San Blas neighborhood to enjoy some stunning views of Cusco and the Cusco Valley. Cusco is also known for its great shopping opportunities. You can find several large artisanal markets around.



**View on the Plaza de Armas, Cusco**



**View from the Plaza San Blas, Cusco**

**May 20 – Half day private tour of Cusco and the surrounding sites (Breakfast).**

Today you will be picked up at the restaurant for a half day tour of Cusco and the most important surrounding sites. This 4 hour tour will give you a great idea of the impressive and important city Cusco once was and still is.

After being picked up from your hotel you will set course for the site the furthest from Cusco; **Tambomachay**. This Inca Site is supposed to be dedicated to the cult of water. Consisting of a group of walls united by stairs, there are springs that cascade to a pool through several channels cut out in the stones used to build this site. The waterfalls in these ruins form part of a terrace to the second wall where the drainage cascades on the first and forms a small pool.



The window sills, holes or niches are 2m high, and are where, according to historians, the Inca and the most important people of his court offered water rites to the god Inti (sun).



Located at a small distance from Tambomachay we will next visit the site of **Puka Pukara**. The name of this small site translates into “Red Fortress” in Quechua, the local language. The site is thought to be a defensive post between Cusco and the Sacred Valley and is located on the old route to Calca, one of the mayor villages in the Sacred Valley. It may also have served as a resting point for travelers between these destinations.

After Puca Pucara you will drive for a couple of kilometers until you reach the site of **Q’enqo**. The main part of this site is a huge boulder that is surrounded by a type of natural amphitheatre. The main boulder is worked with different sculptures of different animals that have a special significance to the Inca. The site is also considered to be used for astronomical observations, including, for calendar making.





From Q'engo it is only a short drive to one of the most famous sites of the Inca; the enormous fortress of **Sacsayhuamán**. Its Quechua name means "satisfied falcon", as it was the falcon that guarded the capital of the empire.



Cuzco was designed in the shape of a lying puma with Sacsayhuamán as its head (the angled walls being the teeth of the puma), and the Coricancha (or Sun Temple) would correspond to the feline's genitalia.

The area where now the Plaza de Armas is located is the space between the legs of the puma. Its construction took over 50 years and required the work of approximately 20,000 men, both for the foundations and hewn stone works, the transportation of materials, carving and stone setting. The stones in some cases were found at 20 kilometers from Cusco and seeing the size of some of these stones; it is a true miracle that they have moved these massive stones to this site. Keep in mind that the site nowadays is about 20% of the original site. Most buildings were destroyed by the Spanish in order to reconstruct Cusco. On top of the hill behind Sacsayhuaman you can still see the foundations of the towers that were used to protect Cusco. The complete history and use for this site is not clear yet but it was managed as a fortress and therefore probably had some kind of military importance. Under the site proof has been found of earlier pre Inca settlements.



From here we will head for Cusco centre where you will visit the Plaza de Armas with its main Cathedral. This Cathedral, the Cathedral de Santa Domingo is one of the finest and oldest to be found in South America.



Building started in 1560 and was completed in 1664. The design is constituted by a Latin - Cross base, the facade has a Renaissance style, very ornamental, and it contains the best work of colonial goldsmiths and wood carvings, as well as a valuable collection of paintings from the famous Cusco School. In the Cathedral you can find a Cusco version of the "Last Supper" painting adjusted to the region as Jesus and his companions are dining on Guinea Pig.

Lastly we will visit the temple of the Sun. This temple under the name **Qoricancha** was the most important temple in the Inca Empire, dedicated primarily to Inti, the Sun God. It was one of the most revered and respected temples of the city of Cuzco, Peru. The walls and floors were once covered in sheets of solid gold, and the courtyard was filled with golden statues. Spanish reports tell of its opulence that was 'fabulous beyond belief'.



The Church of Santo Domingo was built on the site using the ruined foundations of the temple that was flattened by the Spanish in the 17th century, and is a fine example of where Inca stonework has been incorporated into the structure of a colonial building. Major earthquakes have severely damaged the church, but the Inca stone walls, built out of huge, tightly-interlocking blocks of stone, still stand proudly thanks to the sophisticated stone masonry.

This ends the extended Cusco city tour whereupon we will return you to your hotel.

**Included: Cusco Tourist Ticket.**

Valid for 10 days, and known locally as BTC (Boleto Turístico del Cusco), the Tourist Ticket affords entrance to the following sites in and around the city:

Sacsayhuaman National Park.- Sacsayhuaman, Qenqo, Pucapucara, Tambomachay; Pisaq, Ollantaytambo, Chinchero, Tipon, Pikillacta, Museo de Sitio de Qoricancha, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo, Centro Qosqo de Arte Nativo, Monumento al Inca Pachacutec, Convento de Santa Catalina, Museo de Arte Popular and the Museo Histórico Regional. We additionally include the cost of entry to Qoricancha Convent and the Cathedral.



**May 21 - Full day Private Excursion to the Sacred Valley of the Incas (Breakfast & Lunch).**

Today you will be picked up from your hotel for a full day excursion to the Sacred Valley of the Incas. The Sacred Valley of the Incas, located at about one hour's drive from Cusco was the main source of agriculture for the people living in Cusco. Having large flat plains with the Urubamba River flowing in centre of the Valley, this area was vital for the Inca. It is also the entrance to the lower jungle areas and Machu Picchu. You will enter the Sacred Valley by road coming from Cusco and crossing the highland between Cusco and the Valley and then suddenly dropping into the Valley.



**OPTIONALLY;** on route to the Sacred Valley we will also make a stop at the **Cochahuasi Animal Sanctuary** where you will see some of the typical animals from the Andes Highlands.



You will immediately recognize the first stop of your excursion; Pisac. This town is still designed as during the Inca and is guarded by the fortress of Pisac on top of the hill behind the village. The first stop on this tour is the Inca fortress of Pisac. Located above the Andean town of Pisac these ruins are relatively extended and have both a religious as protective function. Around the ruins one can find a large extension of Inca Terracing reaching up to the actual ruins. The main part of the ruins is recognizable by its impressive masonry.

After some time at the ruins we will continue back to the town of Pisac. Here we will visit Pisac Market. Pisac is home to one of the most famous artisanal markets in Peru and even South America. Here you can find almost every kind of Peruvian souvenir or artisanal work that you can dream of. The market takes place every day but the real market is on the Pisac market days (Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday) when the farmers from other communities come to Pisac to sell their products.



This is a very colorful event and fascinating experience. From here we depart for Urubamba, the largest village in the valley. Here you will enjoy a great buffet in one of the local restaurants before setting off for Ollantaytambo.

Ollantaytambo is an attractive little town located at the western end of the Sacred Valley. The town has been built in Inca times and is the best surviving example of Inca town planning. Today even the houses in the old part of Ollantaytambo are divided in blocks with only one or two entrances to small streets and alleys. These blocks (or Canchas in Spanish) are still made out of partial Inca walls and cobblestone streets with their original water drainage systems. Each cancha has a central patio with several houses (i.e. families) per cancha.



The town is located around several plazas with the last one at the foot of the impressive site of Ollantaytambo. This site, a steep collection of large staircases leading up to a strange set of walls and constructions was according to historians never completed and would have been even more impressive if they were ever finished. The centerpieces of this site are for sure the 6 huge monoliths that stand apparently glued together on top of the mountain.

It was at this site that the Inca were able to defeat for the only time known, the Spanish in a face to face battle. With help from the nearby jungle tribes and the intelligent location of Ollantaytambo, the Inca King Manco Inca was able to defeat the Spanish here in 1536. He managed to lure the Spanish into an ambush using the high setting of the site itself and the ability of the Inca to flood the valley below the site where the Urubamba River connects with a smaller river.



After a visit to this impressive site you will be taken to your hotel in the Sacred Valley.

**Hotel Sol** is a newly run small hotel in the centre of the ancient town of Ollantaytambo. The hotel provides spacious rooms equipped with private bathroom, heating and telephone. Several of the rooms have a balcony and have views on the Ollantaytambo Inca ruins. The hotel has a restaurant and a tranquil garden that makes a great place to enjoy breakfast.



**May 22 – Expedition train to Machu Picchu, private guided tour & overnight (Breakfast).**

Today you will be picked up from your hotel for a visit to this marvel of the Andes, one of the new 7 World Wonders; Machu Picchu. You will be picked up from your hotel and taken to the train station in Ollantaytambo to board your Expedition Train to Aguas Calientes departing at **7.20AM** and arriving around **8.55AM**.

The train journey takes you through the Sacred Valley following the Urubamba (also called Vilcanote) River. This amazing train journey will have you staring out of the windows most of the time as the train is provided with good viewing windows and the scenery is quite unforgettable. During the ride there will be snacks available on the train. Upon arrival in Aguas Calientes you will be picked up by your guide and taken first to your hotel to drop your luggage off. The site is reached from Aguas Calientes with a spectacular 20 minutes bus drive (tickets have been included).



At the site you will enjoy an approximately 2.5 hour guided tour led by a qualified English speaking guide before having some free time to explore the site by yourselves. Your guide will lead you on a full exploration of the ruins - staircases, terraces, temples, palaces, towers, fountains and the famous sundial. After the tour you will have the rest of the day free to wander through this amazing site yourself. See the Sun Gate, the Watchman house, you will for sure have your hands full exploring this extensive site.



Please keep in mind that due to new rules, Huayna Picchu can only be climbed in the morning and a very limited number of people are allowed on fixed times. After your free time at Machu Picchu, you can take the bus down again and head to your hotel for the night.

The small hotel **Terrazas del Inca** is located besides the small river flowing through Aguas Calientes just a little uphill about 3 blocks from the train station and 2 from the bus station. The hotel provides nice rooms; several with river view and all equipped with private bathroom, safety deposit box, hair dryer, satellite TV, telephone and heating. Breakfast is included and the hotel has a nice rooftop terrace and complementary Wifi for its guests.



**May 23 - Second day re-visit Machu Picchu, return train to Ollantaytambo (Breakfast).**

Today you have a second day to enjoy Machu Picchu site to the fullest. This day no guide has been included so you can discover the site at your own pace. The bus and entrance tickets have been included. There are busses to Machu Picchu from 5.30AM enabling you to be at the site around 6 and see the sunrise (if weather allows) from the Sun Gate. Visit the Hanging Inca Bridge, climb Machu Picchu Mountain and wander through the different sections of this massive site.



**This day can also be used to climb Huayna Picchu (Young Mountain). This is the towering mountain behind the site of Machu Picchu. This is about 2 hour's and quite an intense climb but on the top you get rewarded with some of the most amazing views of Machu Picchu and impressive buildings constructed on incredible places. In case you would like to do so, please keep in mind that there are only 400 spaces available daily and that these are divided into two groups for the climb either at 7.00AM or at 10.00AM. For those willing to include the hike to Huayna Picchu, the package price will increase with US\$10 per person.**



In the afternoon you can take the bus back down to Aguas Calientes for your return train to Cusco **departing at 4:22PM arriving to Ollantaytambo 5:59PM**. On arrival in Ollantaytambo Station you will be taken to the **El Sol Hotel in Ollantaytambo**.

## May 24 - Full day private excursion to Chinchero, Maras & Moray (Breakfast, Lunch)

Today you will start your excursion from Ollantaytambo. We will take a breathtaking 20km drive with the beautiful snowcapped Chicon and Veronica mountains in the Cordillera Vilcanota as a backdrop as we will continue through to Moray. In Moray we visit “the Inca agricultural greenhouse or laboratory”, consisting of four platforms amphitheater style or. Has a depth of 150 meters, the overlapping concentric circular stone rings widen as they rise. It was an experimental place to study the adaptation of plants to new ecosystems.



After this we will visit Maras famous for its salt mines, made up of about 3000 small wells with an area average size of about 5ms<sup>2</sup>. These were already exploited since Inca times as a means of economic exchange. It is quite interesting to see how the salt is recovered from these mines and the lives of those who work here.



Finally on route back to Cusco we will visit Chinchero about 28 kilometers from Cusco. Chinchero is a charming town, with colonial style constructions and was a major agricultural center during the Tawantinsuyo. One can appreciate the stone walls with trapezoidal niches that provide the setting for the traditional market, where they still practice bartering.

On arrival to Cusco we will take you to your hotel **Midori**.



**May 25 - Fly to Puerto Maldonado, pickup & transfer to the lodge (Breakfast, lunch & dinner).**

In the morning you will be collected from your hotel and taken to the airport for your flight to Puerto Maldonado. On arrival to Puerto Maldonado you will be picked up from the airport and taken to our office to obtain the official waterway permits (you can also guard luggage you won't need during your stay). Meanwhile you can visit the town's main square and also take some photos of the beautiful scenery overlooking the confluence of the rivers Madre de Dios and Tambopata from Grau square. Embarkation will be at Capitania port, the destination being our lodge. We will navigate approximately 40 minutes on the Madre de Dios River in a typical Amazonian boat to the Corto Maltes Amazonia Lodge.



The Corto Maltes Amazonia Lodge has 27 comfortable bungalows built in wood and beautifully finished. For your convenience, we offer 2 rooms with king-size bed, and 25 double or triple. Each bungalow has a private bathroom with hot water 24 hours and a large terrace with hammocks where you can enjoy the excellent view of Madre De Dios River and the jungle that surrounds us. The privacy is guaranteed to be every bungalow sufficiently separated from the others.



A walk in the gardens is an opportunity to learn about native trees of the forest and tropical flowers that feed the parrots and macaws, as well as small monkeys at dusk. Amid the facilities of the lodge is also a pool terrace bar where you can enjoy a refreshing bath at any time.





The main dining room has capacity for 50 people, and a beautiful view of the pier and Madre de Dios River. On both sides of the main building may find themselves craft boutique with products from the region or souvenirs for your family and friends, and the bar where you can taste an exquisite cocktail and enjoy the company of fellow travelers.



Here we will have a welcome cocktail. Afterwards you will be handed over the keys to your bungalow and we will have lunch. The kitchen of our Lodge stands out for the beautiful presentation and the exquisite tastes of the dishes prepared by our French chef. After that you will have some free time to get comfortable in your bungalow, or take a refreshing dip in our pool.

In the afternoon it is time to have some first contact with the jungle. On this first trek you will see a large variety of tropical trees, medicinal plants, insects, butterflies and other animals. Upon return we will make a small stop at a lookout. Here you can observe toucans, macaws and other species of birds upon your return for sunset. Returning to the lodge you can take a refreshing dip in the pool or have an exotic cocktail in our terrace- bar. You could also watch the sunset in the relaxing, tranquility of palm and mango trees at our port.



Before dinner we will go on a nightly boat trip, a little safari trying to spot the white caiman that lives in the river banks. After this we will return to the lodge for dinner. After the delicious dinner, those who wish can have some Smalltalk in our reclining seats or have some fun and make friends with other travelers in the bar. Another option is to take a bath in the pool (with bar) under the shining Amazon sky.



## May 26 – Monkey Island, Lake Sandoval & Nocturnal activity (Breakfast, lunch & dinner).

At 5:30am we will go on a trek of about 20 minutes until we arrive at the parrot clay- lick. Here a minimum of five different species feeds on special clay, vital to their metabolism. It's a truly marvelous, multicolored spectacle.

After this morning hike we will head back to the lodge for breakfast. After breakfast and some free time we will start to navigate the Madre de Dios River. This time on an expedition destined to "Monkey Island" where some species of these interesting and entertaining animals live in freedom. Following another boat ride of 30 min we will enter the territory of the Tambopata- Candamo National Reserve. We will trek 5km through the dense vegetation of the tropical rainforest. Giant trees, snakes, monkeys, birds and sometimes even the elusive jaguar can be observed here.



Our destination is heavenly Sandoval Lake. Its privileged settings are shared by numerous species of animals: Birds (in particular Hoatzins, Kingfisher, and Cormorants), different species of monkeys (Squirrel monkeys, Howler monkeys, Capuchin monkeys). At the lake itself we can enjoy the spectacle of Giant River Otters. Black Caimans and Piranhas (sometimes

we can even observe anacondas in the areas covered by reed). This is also the habitat of the giant Arapaima, a fish of more than 2,5m, weighing in at +200kg. Traveling by canoe, the sunset in the lake is a spectacular unforgettable sight. On our return to the river we might be able to spot some nocturnal animals.

The body demands rest and food after an active day in the jungle. You will enjoy the exotic tastes of our meals, especially our desserts. If you still have energy left you can share moments of music and conversation in the bar whilst having a cocktail or enjoy the sounds of the rainforest surrounding you from your hammock. After a long day full of activity you will enjoy the comfort of you bungalows hammocks.



## May 27 – Transfer to Puerto Maldonado and the airport, fly to Lima (Breakfast)

After breakfast you will be taken in boat back to Puerto Maldonado and to the offices to pick up your luggage. Following that we will visit the local market to show you agricultural products of the region; especially fruits of the Amazon. From here we will take you to the airport for your flight to Lima. **On arrival to Lima you can then connect with your international flight home.**



## END OF SERVICES

## Financial Information

Description	Price
<b>15 Days Peru Professional Development Trip</b>  <b>For; Michigan State University (Larry Olsen)</b>	
<b>Deposit would be US\$6,000 for the entire group.</b>  Full balance is due at 60 days before departure.  <b>Price based on 10 adult passengers.</b>  <b>Payment by international wire transfer</b>	<b>US\$2,355 per person</b> (based on 10 passengers).

### What is included

8 Nights' accommodation in 3\*accommodations (4 Double & 2 single rooms)  
 Expedition Class trains to and from Machu Picchu & 2 day's entrance fee  
**Domestic flights; Lima / Jauja / Lima / Cusco / Puerto Maldonado /Lima**  
 3 Days / 2 Nights Jungle Lodge stay including activities and meals  
 9 breakfast, 5 Lunches & 2 dinners  
 All private guided tours  
 All Private Transfers  
 All Entrance Fees

### What isn't included

#### International airfares

International Departure Taxes at airports  
 Other Meals unless specifically stated in the Itinerary  
 Personal expenses such as telephone bills, laundry expenses, beverages, etc.  
 Travel Insurance covering theft, loss, illness, accidents and incidents outside our control..  
 Baggage portorage and other extras not specified.

At this stage we have not made firm reservations and the proposed itinerary is subject to availability. **In case the original hotel in this itinerary would not be available we will book an alternative hotel of the same price, style and level.** To proceed with your booking we will require a deposit as specified above to be able to request the specified services and book your flights. [Click here](#) for more information on the booking process.

Terms and conditions – [click here](#).

## USEFUL TRAVEL INFORMATION - PERU

### Passports

Please double check your passport is valid for six months beyond the date of return from your trip. If you change your passport after booking the trip with us, please tell us, and then bring the old one (or a good color copy) with you just in case.

### Visas

Visa requirements can, and do, change at short notice and we strongly advise you to check with your National Government's websites after booking and then a couple of weeks before travelling to make sure nothing has changed. For more information, [click here](#).

### Immigration Card

Upon arrival in most Latin American countries you will receive an immigration slip that should be kept for your departure. This slip of paper will be required at all hotel check-ins so please keep it with you at all times.

### Departure Taxes

Departure taxes at airports are not included as part of your tour. We have indicated below current amounts (although these can change at any time and in 2011 some of these will become included).

For international flights departing from Lima a departure tax of US\$30.25 is applicable per person. For domestic flights a departure tax of US\$6.05 is applicable per person.

### Travel Insurance

We strongly recommend you take out [travel insurance](#) before your trip. We do not sell travel insurance and our clients are responsible for arranging their own insurance.

### Hotel vouchers for your trip

We do not issue individual hotel vouchers; your full day by day itinerary represents exactly what is included in terms of hotel accommodation and meal basis.

On the rare occasion that individual hotel vouchers are necessary, our local agents will give them to you on arrival to each country or region. The contact details of these agents can be found in this document.

### Electricity

220 volts/110 volts. The plugs are either two pronged round (not the European pins) or flat pins.

### Time

Peru is GMT minus 5 hours

### Health

Tetanus, polio, typhoid, hepatitis A are advisable but not compulsory. Yellow fever is required if going to the Amazon Jungle. Please check with your Doctor or Travel Clinic for other up to- date immunization advice, including malarial areas. Do not drink the tap water. For more information please [click here](#). For more information about vaccinations, please [click here](#).

Up to date health requirements are available at:  
<http://wwwn.cdc.gov/travel/destinationPeru.aspx>

### Altitude Sickness

With a country as Peru where a large part of the country is located on altitudes well over 2000 meters, altitude sickness is a phenomenon often experienced by visitors. It is caused by the lower level of oxygen available on higher altitudes. This affects the blood circulation and hence has different symptoms. It is commonly seen with altitudes over 2400 meters but it is hard to predict who will be affected by altitude sickness, as there are no specific factors that correlate with a susceptibility to altitude sickness. However, most people can climb up to 2,400 meters without difficulty. The most common symptoms are; dizziness, headaches, shortness of breath, insomnia and loss of appetite. The most important rules when arriving on altitude is to avoid long physical exercise the first day, drink lots of water, get enough rest, eat light and avoid coffee, alcohol and cigarettes. Most people will feel the lack of oxygen for a while but when taking the former advice into account, will undergo little hindrance. In case you would have strong headaches, insomnia and troubles breathing it is strongly recommend to see a doctor. In Cusco and other cities with high altitude oxygen is widely available in pharmacies. Most hotels also provide oxygen for their guests if requested. For the locals there is only one remedy and that is drinking Coca Tea made out of the leaves of the Coca plant. Its benefits have scientifically not been proven yet but who can deny the argument of thousands of years of Andean Culture. Medicines that can help against altitude sickness are Diamox and Ibuprofen. These are widely available in pharmacies in Peru.

### Money & Expense (Peru)

The Peruvian currency is the new Sol (Sun), it is currently worth approximately \$0.33 although the Dollar is also widely accepted. Automatic cash dispensers are available in the major cities and towns. Most machines take all debit cards, as well as Cirrus and Plus cards. Visa and Amex are widely accepted (MasterCard to a lesser degree). For more information please [click here](#).

### Climate

In the Andes the seasons are defined, with a cool and dry period from June to September and a warmer but rainy period from December to March. The jungle is hot, humid and rainy all year round, the coastal region including Lima generally follows the southern hemisphere's pattern of being hot and sunny in December to March and cooler and misty between April and October.

Weather: [Weather Guide Peru](#)

**Language**

Spanish is the official language in most of the countries where tours are operated, with Portuguese being spoken in Brazil. English is spoken in tourist areas in all of the countries. Many indigenous communities still speak ancient languages, such as Quechua and Aymara in Peru.

**Tipping**

Tipping for good service is an accepted fact. Amounts are obviously discretionary. Ask us for a guide.

**Transfers**

Whether arriving at an airport, bus or train station please look around for our representative and give sufficient time for them to find you. Look for a sign with your name on it. If not found please call the number listed for the person / agency that should be collecting you.

For more information about Peru, please [click here](#).

*We look forward to your visit!!!!*

*Your SATO team.*