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PALACE TOURS

Hiram Bingham Luxury Train: Discover Machu Picchu and the Sacred Valley

7 Nights • Luxury Experience

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ABOUT THIS TOUR

Overview

Explore Peru in the midst of a luxurious train as it journeys through important cities like Lima where you can dine at the Rosa Nautica restaurant and savor its unique Pisco sour cocktail. Fine dining, adventure and exploration await you at every stop including the city of Cusco and its Temple of the Sun created by the Incas. Along the way you will also get to visit salt mines that have been operating since Incas ruled and also the magnificent remnants of Machu Picchu, which was rediscovered by Hiram Bingham in 1911 and is currently one of the must see destinations in the country.

DAY BY DAY

Your Itinerary

DAY 1

LIMA

You are met upon arrival at the airport in Lima and transferred to your hotel. Spend the remainder of your day at leisure, resting and acclimating from your long flight, as you prepare for the exciting journey that lies ahead.

Overnight in Lima.

DAY 2

LIMA

This morning, take a city tour of Lima, one of the most important cities in South America since it was founded by the Spanish conquistador Francisco Pizarro in 1535. Explore the historic quarter and modern districts of the city and the main square with its beautiful buildings. The Government Palace, the City Hall, the Palace of the Archbishop and the Cathedral are still the most important places in town. Continue on to the San Francisco Monastery and then to the popular Plaza San Martin. Your tour ends in the residential districts of San Isidro and Miraflores.

Overnight in Lima.

Meals included:

- Breakfast
- Dinner

DAY 3

CUSCO / LIMA

Board your early morning flight to the Inca capital of Cusco. Upon arrival, proceed to the hotel to have a welcome coca tea, which may help relieve altitude sickness. The remaining of the morning is yours to relax and slowly acclimatize.

This afternoon, enjoy a walk through the major sites of interest in Cusco, including the famed Cathedral with its magnificently carved woodwork, ornate altar and many hundreds of canvases from the 17th-century 'Cusco Painting School'. Continue exploring the cultural wealth of Cusco at the Temple of the Sun and witness the incredible masonry of the Incas, an engineering feat that remains an enigma. We make a last stop in San Blas artisan quarter, whose steeped cobblestone alleys not only offer spectacular views of the city but are lined with workshops and galleries, a great way to soak in Cusco's artistic atmosphere. San Blas church houses an imposing pulpit that is considered one of New World's finest woodcarvings.

Today's tour ends with a visit to the Museum of Pre-Columbian Art hosted in a beautiful colonial casona, the former residence of Count of Cabrera. This 'casona' holds the only museum in Peru dedicated to rebound the arts of ancient Peruvian cultures and showcases an astounding pre-Columbian collection dating from 1250 B.C to 1532 A.D. The art and artifacts were made by the Huari, Chimu, Nasca and the Inca cultures. Dinner at MAP cafe

Overnight in Cusco.

Meals included:

- Breakfast
- Dinner

DAY 4

CUSCO / OLLANTAYTAMBO / SACRED VALLEY

This morning, drive to the charming community of Chinchero. Its main attraction is the Sunday market that traces its roots back to the Incan time when barter or 'trueque' existed. Today, the market takes place in the main square at the foot of an Inca wall, vibrant with color and movement, with a fascinating range of handicrafts, especially textiles. Join a local weaving family in their courtyard for an overview of the Andean weaving process. Watch as wool is carded, spun, and dyed and learn about the different techniques used to create belts, ponchos and shawls.

Before lunchtime, drive to Hacienda Huayoccari. Nestled in the Sacred Valley, about one hour from Cusco, this is one of the best places to eat and relax. Experience the warm hospitality, feel the flavor of the past and the history of the haciendas of Cusco, and enjoy an impressive view of the Sacred Valley. After admiring the family's vast collection of folk art, savor a meal in the hacienda's garden prepared with fresh local products.

After lunch, drive past ancient farming terraces that are still in use today to grow barley, wheat, and corn to reach the town of Ollantaytambo where the Temple of the Sun and the Terrace of the Ten Niches stand out. Tonight, enjoy a relaxing and soothing time in the Andean Spa at the hotel, complete with a massage session.

Overnight in Sacred Valley.

Meals included:

- Breakfast
- Lunch

DAY 5

MARAS / MORAY / SACRED VALLEY

Depart after breakfast for a guided visit to the age-old terraced salt mines in Maras. The dominant color is an intense white that burns like snow on a sunny day. Salt was extracted from these mines from Inca times and the same method has been used ever since - all work is done by hand.

After stopping to explore, continue to Moray, one of the many little jewels to be found in the Cusco region. Moray is home to a complex of four circular terraces which, hidden among the hills, emerge suddenly into view when you are almost on top of it. The impression created by these terraces like Greek amphitheater against a backdrop of snow covered mountains is unforgettable. Even more surprising is the fact that Moray was a sort of open-air agricultural lab, used for adapting plants to new environmental conditions.

Overnight in Sacred Valley

Meals included:

- Breakfast

DAY 6

MACHU PICCHU / MACHU PICCHU - AGUAS CALIENTES / OLLANTAYTAMBO / SACRED VALLEY

Receive an early morning transfer to Ollanta train station and travel to Machu Picchu via the luxurious Hiram Bingham train. This train reflects the 1920s Pullman era whilst boasting elegance and sophistication. Enjoy brunch and cocktails in a relaxed atmosphere as the train passes through the Sacred Valley of the Incas. The train arrives in Aguas Calientes this afternoon, and you are taken up to the majestic citadel of Machu Picchu by private bus. Get ready to experience one of the most outstanding archaeological wonders of the world on a 2-hour tour. At the end of the day, gather with the other guests in Machu Picchu Sanctuary Lodge for late afternoon tea complete with a buffet of tea sandwiches, cookies, and sweets. Afterwards, you are transferred to your hotel, where dinner is served.

Overnight in Machu Pichu.

Meals included:

- Breakfast
- Lunch
- Dinner

DAY 7

CUSCO / MACHU PICCHU / MACHU PICCHU - AGUAS CALIENTES

After breakfast, the remainder of the morning is yours at leisure to roam around the majestic site of Machu Picchu, climb the Huayna Picchu or to explore the interesting town of Aguas Calientes. This afternoon, transfer to the Aguas Calientes station to travel back to Cusco via the elegant Hiram Bingham train. Pre-dinner cocktails are served on board, followed by a sophisticated five-course meal. Upon arrival, you are transferred back to your hotel in Cusco for your final night in Peru.

Overnight in Cusco.

Meals included:

- Breakfast
- Dinner

DAY 8

BARRANCO / CUSCO / LIMA

Board your morning flight to Lima and transfer to Barranco district, where many art galleries can be found. One of the classiest art galleries and with a stunning ocean view is Dedalo. Wander through its ample rooms, each one with its very own personality and marvel at the hundreds of modern colorful art objects. Local artists, mostly from Lima and its vicinity, exhibit an astounding variety of jewelry, textiles, pictures, furnishings, clothes and more.

At the proper time, you are transferred the airport for your departure flight home or to your next exotic destination.

Meals included:

- Breakfast

Tips & Travel Guide

What is the weather like?

Peru's climate can be divided into two seasons - wet and dry - though this can vary depending on the region. Temperature is mostly influenced by elevation: the higher you climb, the cooler it becomes.

Coastal areas - Lima, Ica, Nasca, Arequipa:

The coastal region of Peru is cool for its latitude and quite dry year-round. Temperatures are warmest during the summer months (December to March), with hot and humid days of around 29°C (84°F) and cool nights of just below 20°C (68°F). Winters (from April to November) are not too cold but extremely humid.

Highlands (Andes) - Cusco, Puno:

The highlands have a rainy season (November to April) and a dry season (May to October), when the days are clear and sunny but very cold at night especially at altitude. Dry season is therefore ideal for trekking and for mountaineering. Daytime temperatures will generally be between 16°C-21°C (60°F and 70°F), although in the intense sunlight of midday it can feel warmer. Night time temperatures can fall as low as -7°C (20°F).

What clothing and other items are recommended to bring?

Please dress comfortably according to the local weather conditions. We recommend bringing sweatshirts, fleece jacket, raincoat, trousers, cargo shorts, t-shirts, hat, hiking shoes, sandals, swimsuit, toiletries, first-aid kit, insect repellent, aspirin, sun block and sunglasses.

What health precautions should I take before visiting Peru?

You should visit your personal physician for a check-up prior to taking your trip to Peru. The following are the recommended vaccinations for Peru: diphtheria, tetanus, polio, typhus, hepatitis A/B, rabies. P A yellow-fever vaccine is strongly recommended for trips to the Amazon (Puerto Maldonado or Iquitos). The vaccine is required for all travelers arriving from a yellow-fever-infected country in Africa or Latin America. The yellow-fever certificate is valid 10 days after vaccination and for a subsequent period of 10 years. Malaria is prevalent in northern parts of Peru and in Iquitos (Amazon). The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (www.cdc.gov) recommends taking anti-malarial drugs. Please refer to your doctor for the most up to date information about anti-malarial medication.

What precautions against mosquitoes do I need to take?

You will find mosquitoes and other stinging insects especially in the rainforest. A good protection not only prevents from itching but also from transmission of diseases such as Malaria or yellow fever. Wear light-colored clothing, long trousers and long-sleeved shirts; use mosquito repellents containing the compound DEET on exposed areas; avoid perfumes and aftershave. Use a mosquito net impregnated with mosquito repellent (permethrin). In case you have a very sensitive skin you could use an anti-allergic cream, for example 'After bite' or 'Bite away' that reduces the itchiness. Double-check that your lodge provides a mosquito net in your room.

Is the water safe to drink?

The standards for health and hygiene in the larger cities and tourist regions are relatively high. Nevertheless, travelers should drink only bottled water, which is widely available. Do not drink tap water, even in major hotels, and try to avoid drinks with ice. If you're trekking in the mountains or visiting remote rural areas where bottled water is not available, boil water to purify it or use water-purification tablets. You are safer eating fruits that you can peel or salads and fruits washed with purified water, as well as foods that have been thoroughly cooked. Your best bet is to avoid food from street vendors.

What should I expect regarding altitude sickness?

For a healthy person traveling to the Andes, there is just a minimal risk of suffering from altitude sickness. You should take enough time to acclimatize after arrival, especially in Andean cities like Cusco 3,360m (11,023ft) or Puno 3,827m (12,556ft). We recommend avoiding physical efforts during the first few hours as well as alcohol. Try to eat light food and drink a lot of water. The local coca tea is recommended in case of altitude sickness. People with cardiovascular disease should not stay in an altitude over 2,000m. Altitude sickness can be counteracted by inhaling pure oxygen, and oxygen bottles can be purchased locally.

What is the official currency?

Peru's official currency is the Nuevo Sol, divided into 100 centavos. The US dollar is the second currency and many hotels, plenty of shops, restaurants, and bars across Peru accept US dollars for payment. Partly, the Euro is also accepted. Banks are no longer the place of choice in Peru for exchanging money: Lines are too long and rates are often lower than at 'casas de cambio' (exchange houses) or by using credit or debit card ATMs or 'cambistas' (money-changers), which are legal in Peru. Money-changers, often wearing colored jackets with "$" insignias and photo checks, can be found on the street. They offer current rates of exchange, but count your money carefully and make sure you have not received any counterfeit bills. We recommend bringing USD cash for the first few days.

How common are ATMs? Can I exchange traveler's checks?

Peru is still very much a cash society. In small towns, it could be impossible to cash traveler's checks or use credit cards. Automatic teller machines (ATMs) are the best way of getting cash in Peru; they are found in most towns and cities. ATMs with the Maestro sign allow customers to withdraw money with a credit or debit card. Visa and MasterCard ATM cards are the most widely accepted. American Express and Diners Club are less common. You can easily pay with credit card in most of the stores in tourist cities. Note that many banks assess a 1% to 3% 'transaction fee' on all charges you incur abroad. Traveler's checks can be changed in the largest banks. Generally speaking you'll pay a service charge ranging from 1% to 4%. Most stores don't accept traveler's checks.

Will there be internet access or phone accessibility?

It is relatively simple to make local and long-distance domestic and international calls from pay phones, which accept coins and phone cards 'tarjetas telefónicas'. Many of these cards can be purchased at newspaper kiosks and street vendors. Most phone booths display country and city codes and contain instructions in English and Spanish. Peru's country code is +51. Roaming agreements exist with some international mobile phone companies. Mobile phones can be rented in Lima and the main cities. Internet access in Peru is very cheap. The rates vary between USD 0.50 and USD 1.00 per hour. Also, you will be able to find Internet Cafes, where most of the times you will be able to access for free via wireless Internet.

What are the guidelines for tipping?

A tip in Peru, like in most of the countries in South America, is given to reward good service. Porters in hotels and airports expect USD 1.00 for 2 luggage pieces. A 5-10% tip is sufficient in most restaurants unless the service has been exceptional. There is no need to tip taxi drivers. Fares are negotiated before departure. It is customary to offer your tour guides and driver a token of appreciation at the tour's end, if you feel pleased with their service.

What should I know about taxis?

There are numerous taxi providers in Lima and other cities who offer reservations by telephone or hotel. These taxis are safer and drivers may understand some English. Street taxis are cheaper but not that safe. In any case, due to the fact there are no taximeters you should negotiate the price in advance.

Is bargaining common while shopping?

At stores and in open markets, bargaining (gentle, good-natured haggling over prices) is accepted and even expected. However, be careful of getting the haggling fever and trying to bargain beyond reason. Consider how important the one or two extra dollars are to you compared to how important they might be to the vendor. Bargaining is not common in restaurants.

What electric outlets are there?

All outlets are 220 volts, 60 cycles (except in Arequipa, which operates on 50 cycles) with two-prong outlets that accept both flat and round prongs. Some large hotels also have 110-volt outlets.

How much are airport taxes?

If the airport tax is not included you have to settle it after checking in at the airport. The amount depends on the place and kind of flight. It's approximately USD 6.05 for domestic flights. You will be charged USD 30.25 for an international flight.

What safety issues do I need to be aware of?

Peru recognizes that tourism plays an important part in its developing economy and has taken great steps in the last few years to change its security record. The possibility of having a bad experience can be greatly reduced by taking a few simple precautions: - Copy all important documents (passport, air tickets) and carry only copies with you - Leave your valuables and important documents such as passport, international flight tickets, jewelry at the hotel, if possible in the safe. In case there is only one safe in the reception, obtain a receipt with each item listed. If necessary, carry important documents and cash in a belt under your clothes and do not leave items unattended. Be especially cautious in crowded places, especially at tourist hotspots such as Lima and Cusco; rural areas are widely safe. Remember that you are subject to the laws of Peru, and it is your responsibility to familiarize yourself with these laws before leaving. Drug trafficking is a serious crime, and the export of cultural or artistic items from the country is not permitted. Avoid walking alone in quiet areas or at night, travel in a group if possible and tell somebody where you go if you are alone. In case you get into trouble with authorities insist on seeing their identification. Check your change and check the banknotes and coins.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Terms & Conditions

Booking Conditions

Deposit: 15% of the total fare confirms your booking. **Balance:** due 56 days before departure; bookings made within 56 days of departure are payable in full at booking.

Cancellation Policy

Cancellations must be made in writing and take effect when acknowledged. Charges apply as a percentage of the total fare for the person(s) cancelling:

- 56 days or more before departure: 15%
- 55–21 days before departure: 30%
- 20–3 days before departure: 70%
- 2 days or less before departure, or no-show: 100%

Date changes follow the same charge schedule as cancellations. A booking may be transferred to another guest up to 14 days before departure (an amendment fee plus any supplier costs apply); name changes require at least 7 days' written notice. No refunds are made for unused services or no-shows.

Important

Comprehensive travel insurance covering cancellation is strongly recommended. Schedule per Belmond's Trains & Cruises booking conditions (world excluding EEA/UK, last updated 11 February 2026). Palace Tours' terms and conditions also apply.

COMMON QUESTIONS

Frequently Asked Questions

How long is the Hiram Bingham Luxury Train tour of Machu Picchu and the Sacred Valley?

> The tour lasts 8 days and 7 nights. It starts with your arrival in Lima, continues to Cusco, the Sacred Valley and Machu Picchu, and ends on day 8 with a flight back to Lima, a visit to the Barranco art district and your transfer to the airport.

What is the Hiram Bingham train?

> The Hiram Bingham is a luxury train between the Sacred Valley and Machu Picchu, styled on the 1920s Pullman era. On this tour you ride it both ways, with brunch on the outbound journey through the Sacred Valley and a five-course dinner on the return to Cusco. It is named after the explorer who brought Machu Picchu to world attention in 1911.

What is the route of the Hiram Bingham Luxury Train tour?

> The route runs Lima (days 1-2), a flight to Cusco (day 3), Chinchero and the Sacred Valley (day 4), Maras and Moray (day 5), the Hiram Bingham train to Machu Picchu (day 6), a free morning at Machu Picchu and the train back to Cusco (day 7), and a flight to Lima for Barranco and your departure (day 8).

What does the Lima city tour include?

> On day 2 you explore Lima, founded by Francisco Pizarro in 1535, including the main square with the Government Palace, City Hall, Archbishop's Palace and Cathedral, the San Francisco Monastery and Plaza San Martin. The tour ends in the residential districts of San Isidro and Miraflores, and dinner is included that evening.

What do we see in Cusco on arrival?

> After an early flight to Cusco on day 3, you are welcomed with coca tea at your hotel and have the morning to acclimatise. In the afternoon you visit the Cathedral with its carved woodwork and Cusco School paintings, the Temple of the Sun with its remarkable Inca masonry, and the San Blas artisan quarter.

What happens at the Chinchero Sunday market?

> On day 4 you visit Chinchero, whose Sunday market traces its roots to Inca-era bartering and is held at the foot of an Inca wall. You join a local weaving family to watch wool being carded, spun and dyed, before lunch at a hacienda in the Sacred Valley.

What are Maras and Moray?

> On day 5 you visit the terraced salt pans of Maras, worked by hand using the same method since Inca times. You then continue to Moray, a complex of four circular terraces resembling a Greek amphitheatre against snow-covered mountains, before staying in the Sacred Valley.

How long do we spend at Machu Picchu?

> On day 6 you arrive in Aguas Calientes by the Hiram Bingham train and take a bus up to the citadel for a 2-hour guided tour, followed by afternoon tea near the site. On day 7 the morning is free to return to Machu Picchu, climb Huayna Picchu or explore Aguas Calientes before the train back to Cusco.

Is a second visit to Machu Picchu included?

> No. The entrance fee and the Aguas Calientes to Machu Picchu bus for a second-day visit on day 7 are not included. You can buy them as an extra, and a travel specialist can arrange them in advance, as entry to Machu Picchu is controlled.

Is the Machu Picchu visit private or shared?

> The Hiram Bingham train and the Machu Picchu tour are on a seat-in-coach basis, shared with other travellers, with a local English and Spanish-speaking guide. The other transfers and excursions on the tour use private transfers with a local English-speaking guide.

Which meals are included on the Hiram Bingham tour?

> The tour includes 7 breakfasts, 2 lunches and 4 dinners. These cover dinner in Lima on day 2, lunch at the Sacred Valley hacienda, brunch and afternoon tea on the Machu Picchu day, and the five-course dinner on board the Hiram Bingham on day 7.

What is included in the Hiram Bingham Luxury Train tour price?

> The price includes hotel transfers, 7 nights' accommodation, the meals specified, the excursions in the itinerary with a local English-speaking guide, the Hiram Bingham train ticket from Ollantaytambo to Machu Picchu and back to Poroy, the Machu Picchu tour, and entrance fees to the sites in the itinerary.

What is not included in the Hiram Bingham tour price?

> Not included are international and domestic airfare, airport departure taxes, travel insurance or visa fees, the entrance and bus for a second-day Machu Picchu visit, meals and services not specified, gratuities and personal expenses. A holiday surcharge applies to Christmas and New Year departures.

What is the difference between the Silver, Gold and Diamond classes?

> The classes share the same itinerary and train, but the hotels differ. Diamond class uses the most exclusive options, such as an ocean-view junior suite in Lima and deluxe rooms in Cusco, the Sacred Valley and Machu Picchu. Gold class uses a master suite in Lima and similar deluxe rooms elsewhere. A specialist will confirm the hotels for your class.

Is altitude a concern on this tour?

> Cusco is at high altitude, which is why the tour gives you a free morning to acclimatise on day 3 and offers a welcome coca tea, which may help. If you have heart or breathing conditions, consult your doctor before booking, and take the first day in Cusco gently.

What is the best time of year to take the Hiram Bingham tour?

> In the Andes around Cusco and Machu Picchu, the dry season from May to October brings clear, sunny days and cold nights, while November to April is the rainy season. Lima on the coast is fairly dry year-round, warmest from December to March.

How much is the deposit and when is the balance due?

> A 15% deposit secures your booking of the Hiram Bingham Luxury Train tour. The balance is due 56 days before departure, so bookings made within 56 days of travel are normally paid in full at the time of booking.

Can children join the Hiram Bingham Luxury Train tour?

> Yes. Child pricing uses two bands based on age on the day of departure: under 5, and from 5 to under 12, and from age 12 the adult rate applies. Please discuss younger children with a specialist, as Cusco and the Sacred Valley are at altitude.

When can I take this tour and what does it cost?

> No fixed departure dates are currently listed on this page, so the tour is quoted on request for your dates. Prices are per person sharing in USD and depend on your class, with a surcharge over Christmas and New Year. Single occupancy is available on request with a supplement.

How do I ask a question or book the Hiram Bingham Luxury Train tour?

> Email travel@palacetours.com, call 786-408-0610, or message us on WhatsApp at https://wa.me/17864080610, answered by a travel specialist or our AI assistant. Any departure listed on this page can be booked directly online, and if none suits you, the team will quote your preferred dates.

Ready to Book Your Journey?

Contact Palace Tours for personalized rates and departure dates

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