

GRAND EAST & WEST COAST TOUR OF SOUTH AMERICA

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2016 ESCORTED TOUR 10 JUL - 27 JUL

**ALL
EXCURSIONS
INCLUDED**



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VISITING: LIMA, CUZCO, MACHU PICCHU, PUNO, FOZ DO IGUAZU, BUENOS AIRES, RIO DE JANEIRO

DAY 1 - MALTA - PERU

Flight Malta - Lima

DAY 2 - LIMA

Arrival in Lima, meet and greet and transfer to the 4* Estelar Miraflores hotel.

Lima - The Peruvian capital was founded 1535 by the Spanish conqueror Francisco Pizarro. Here, you will encounter colonial richness and the vibrating vitality of an oriental bazaar. The city has melancholic winters where the fog „garua“ rules and also hot and humid summers. There are huge districts where poor people live but also rich quarters with comfortable, old houses and the smell of jasmine in the evening.

DAY 3 - LIMA - CUSCO - URUBAMBA

Transfer to the airport for flight to Cusco. Upon arrival transfer to the 5* Aranwa Sacred Valley hotel in the Urubamba Valley, known as Sacred Valley, where the Urubamba River, a headstream of the Amazon passes through. On your way to the Urubamba Valley you will undertake a short visit to the sanctuary Cochahuasi Wasi. You will have the opportunity to see Pumas, Condors and Aras. The small conservation project is not comparable with a Zoo. It's also possible to get an insight in the Andean web techniques. You will continue to the "Mercado de Urubamba" and on the way you will have lunch in a typical local restaurant. The "Mercado de Urubamba" is an authentic market where real bartering takes place. The rural people of the surroundings sell and barter agricultural products as well as animals. It is also the place where locals exchange gossips and news.
Meals: Breakfast.

DAY 4 - URUBAMBA - CUSCO

This morning visit Ollantaytambo, a typical Inca community. Towering above the town of Ollantaytambo we will find the Inca fortress of Ollantaytambo. Steep stone terraces rising from the edge of town lead up to the fortress ruins at the top of the hill. A stone stairway leads up through the terrace walls, allowing visitors to step out on them. One of the best-preserved areas lies north of the Hanan Huacaypata square: an area of 15 blocks of houses built on top of carved stone walls. Lunch will be served at a local restaurant. The rest of the day is free at leisure.
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch.

DAY 5 - URUBAMBA - CUSCO

Transfer by bus to the train station of Ollantaytambo where the tour starts by train that goes through the fertile plain of the Urubamba valley and on to Aguas Calientes. From there, small busses drive up the steep mountain to the ruin town Machu Picchu. Called the Lost City of the Incas, this cultural heritage of mankind is a beautifully located impressive stone city constructed with a technique incredible for its era and even for present

times. Stone upon stone, fitted together perfectly without any cement, with impressive delicacy, exquisite detail and discrimination worthy of the world's greatest palaces. There are many theories about Machu Picchu, but one thing is for sure - it is one of the most impressive sites in the world. Enjoy a guided visit of around 2 hours of the ruins and return by bus and train to Ollantaytambo station. Transfer to the 4* Novotel Cusco hotel in Cusco.
Meals: Breakfast.

DAY 6 - CUSCO

In the morning the half-day city tour will show the exact centre of the Inca Empire, the Plaza de Armas. There one can find the cathedral built on the ruins of the ancient Inca Palace. The cathedral borders on other churches on both sides. Next stop will be the old town with its magnificent renovated colonial buildings; some of them are being used as hotels. Then proceed to Sacsayhuaman, a ruin located approx. 3 km above Cusco. Sacsayhuaman also offers a fabulous view of the city. Afterwards visit the surrounding ruins.
Meals: Breakfast.

DAY 7 - CUSCO - PUNO

A full day bus journey from Cusco to Puno leads through the Peruvian highland along snow-covered peaks, passes up to 4.300m above sea level and then goes down to Puno, which is right on Lake Titicaca. On route we will visit the town of Andahuaylillas, the ruins of Racchi, and the small town of Pucara. Lunch in a typical restaurant en route is included. After arrival in Puno transfer to the 4* Casa Andina Private Collection hotel.

Puno - was founded in 1668 and has the byname „Capital of Folklore“. The city is situated at the shores of the highest navigable lake of the world, Lake Titicaca. The „ocean of the Andes“ provides warmth and food for many inhabitants of the region, as the lake provides a milder climate for crops and life stock. According to the legend, the Sun God's children, Manco Capac and Mama Ocllo, emerged from the lake into the world to found the empire of the Incas. The lake remains mystical, full of secrets and leaves a lifelong impression on its visitors.
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch.

DAY 8 - PUNO - LIMA

In the morning you will be picked up from your hotel and transferred to Puno's dock where you will depart towards the Uros Islands on Titicaca Lake. The Uros are 40 small floating islands made of packed totora (reed), located within the Titicaca National Reserve. Here the inhabitants of the lake, the Uros, live just as their ancestors did, maintaining their customs and idiosyncrasies. After visiting the Uros Islands we will continue by boat to Taquile Island. There

are no roads or electricity in Taquile and the locals have maintained their traditions and culture and many still wear traditional dresses. The Taquileños are known for their high-quality handicrafts, especially for the knitting, which is exclusively performed by males. In the main square there is a cooperative shop, selling woollen goods and hand-woven items, as well as a small church. A typical lunch at Taquile Island is included. Transfer from the hotel to the airport for flight to Lima and transfer to the 4* Estelar Miraflores hotel.
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch.

DAY 9 - LIMA

In the afternoon you will explore the city on a sightseeing tour through Lima. The Plaza de Armas with the beautiful buildings of the government Palace, the town hall, the Palace of the archbishop and the cathedral are still the most important places in town. After that you will visit the beautiful San Francisco monastery which displays the largest collection of religious art in America. The highlight of this convent is the visit of the underground vaults known as "catacumbas" or catacombs. Proceed through the modern districts of San Isidro and Miraflores and to the Coastline enjoying the view over the beaches of Lima and the Pacific Ocean. Afterwards enjoy a guided visit of one of the Lima's most noted museums, the Rafael Larco Herrera Archaeological Museum which houses the world's largest private collection of Peruvian pre-Columbian Art. Mr. Rafael Larco Hoyle founded the museum on July 28, 1926, in the Chiclin sugar estate in Trujillo, naming it as his father as an expression of filial homage. In 1958 he moved the collection to Lima, installing the Museum in a Colonial house in the district of Pueblo Libre, where it currently functions. This locale was adapted to the characteristics style of the 18th century Colonial houses from Trujillo. The approximate 45,000 objects of the collection have been exhibited to the public in the Permanent Hall, Jewelry Vault and the Classified Storage Area ever since. The Halls of the Larco Museum are organized by subjects. The Metals, Ceramics, the Stones, the Culture, the Great Jewelry Vault and Textile Halls emphasize the technological aspects by Pre-Columbian cultures. Finally the World's unique Erotic Hall gives us a glimpse of the fascinating sexual life of ancient Peruvians.
Meals: Breakfast.

DAY 10 - LIMA - FOZ DO IGUAZU

Transfer from the hotel to the airport of Lima for flight to Iguassu. Upon arrival transfer to the 4* Mabu Thermas Hotel & Resort.

Foz do Iguacu - Located close to the point where the Iguassu River empties its waters into the Parana River forming the world's widest waterfalls and giving rise to the double border of Brazil and Argentina, the city of Foz do Iguazu, with 325.137 inhabitants (2009 census), is of great tourist interest. Although not being big, Foz do Iguazu is a busy city, thanks to the many visitors that come to see the falls and also to Brazilian shoppers that come to purchase imported goods in Ciudad Del Este, the Paraguayan tax-free city right across the border. The Itaipu Hydroelectric Dam also brings great activity to the city thanks to the high number of its employees living in Foz do Iguassu

Meals: Breakfast.

DAY 11 - FOZ DO IGUAZU

You will leave your hotel on the Brazilian side by motor coach and cross the Iguassu National Park towards the Brazilian Falls. You walk along the paths following the cascades and then along the catwalk which leads you very close to the bottom of the Devil's Throat. You will enjoy magnificent views. Afterwards you take an elevator to go up back to the road, and there you will board the motor coach which will take you to the Argentinian side of the falls. You will make a short stop at the Visitor's Centre and proceed from there along the Inferior Circuit, the down-river falls, to the Superior Circuit, the up-river cascades. The Ecological Jungle Train leads you to the most impressive observation point of the falls - The Devil's Throat. Meals: Breakfast.

DAY 12 - FOZ DO IGUAZU - BUENOS AIRES

Transfer from the hotel to the airport for the flight to Buenos Aires. Arrival in Buenos Aires and transfer to the 4* Kenton Palace Buenos Aires hotel.

Buenos Aires - is the capital of Argentina and the center of the political, economic and intellectual life of the country. It is also the most elegant and busy city in South America. This cosmopolitan city with great European cultural influence displays a refined taste in its cooking, in its boutiques and in the elegance of its inhabitants. Whilst of modern construction and dynamic activity, it has managed to preserve old traditions and charming corners. The atmosphere, the individual personality of each of its neighborhoods, the cordiality of its people and the wide selection of its cultural and commercial opportunities, fascinates one. Almost 13 million people live there and can enjoy the plentiful nightlife visiting tango bars, discotheques, eternally open bars and restaurants.

During the day, a wide variety of attractions are offered: museums, art galleries, tasteful shops, fascinating antiques, large green areas, parks, wide tree lined boulevards, clubs, sporting events and golf courses. This is the land of tango music, included in UNESCO list of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. Meals: Breakfast.

DAY 13 - BUENOS AIRES

Get in touch with the birth city of the Tango! During your city tour in Buenos Aires you will drive along 9 de Julio Avenue, the widest avenue of the world, you will pass close to the Colon Theatre, one of the world's best known opera houses and the cultural pride of the "porteños" (as the inhabitants of Buenos Aires

are called). Visit the famous Avenida de Mayo that runs into the Plaza De Mayo, surrounded by the Casa Rosada (Government House), the Metropolitan Cathedral and the Cabildo (first City Hall, built during Spanish rule). At the other end of Avenida de Mayo the cupola of the Congress building can be seen.

Continue to San Telmo, an historical neighborhood and the eldest district of Buenos Aires. Here you may have some time to stroll around Plaza Dorrego with its many antique shops Your next stop is La Boca, a most colorful area with the famous street Caminito. Continue to the north area driving to Palermo, the green area of the city with its beautiful parks, the City Zoo, Botanical Garden, Argentine Horse Track and National Polo Fields. Palermo is well-known for its artificial lakes. At the end of the tour you will visit Recoleta area, one of the city's most glamorous spots. Here you will see elegant boutiques and excellent restaurants, surrounded by centennial trees. Later proceed to The Tigre Delta with its rivers, streams and numerous green islands is one of the most attractive areas for visitors. The continuous sediment of the Paraná River, which gives the river and estuary their particular brownish-red color, forms the Delta islands. You will drive through the northern district and outskirts of the city to get to Tigre, a charming resort where a great number of summer residences, yachting and rowing clubs concentrate the weekend activities of many "porteños". You will enjoy a boat excursion on a boat along the innumerable channels of the Paraná-Delta to see some of the hundreds of islands covered with luxuriant vegetation In the evening, you will enjoy a Dinner together with a Tango Show.

Visiting a Tango Show is a MUST when you are in Buenos Aires. The Tango tradition started at the end of the last century, developing from a mixture of various rhythms, which were originally danced in the poorer quarters. Dinner includes entrée, main course, dessert & drinks

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner.

DAY 14 - BUENOS AIRES - RIO DE JANEIRO

Transfer from the hotel to the airport for flight to Rio de Janeiro. Arrival in Rio and transfer to the 4* Rio Othon Palace hotel.

Rio de Janeiro - The so called Marvellous City, is the capital of Rio de Janeiro State. Second biggest city in Brazil, with a population of 6.186.710 inhabitants within the city limits, it is nevertheless a beach resort, located by the Atlantic Ocean and by the big Guanabara Bay. Rio is graced by its topography. The city spreads on a 24km (15 mi) long strip of land, nestled between mountains and sea. There are some 45km (28 mi) separating downtown Flamengo from far flung Recreio, bordered on one side by the blue ocean, on the other by verdant hills. Between them lies a colourful state of mind called "carioca", relaxed and high-spirited. Although being no longer Brazil's capital, Rio is still an important cultural, financial and tourist centre.

Meals: Breakfast.

DAY 15 - RIO DE JANEIRO

Downtown is the business heart of Rio. It is the part of the city where colonial Rio meets modern skyscrapers. Your tour starts on 1º de Março avenue, the first commercial street built in the 18th. You will see the Paço Imperial palace, which was the first residence of the Royal Family, Banco do Brasil Cultural Centre and the Candelaria Church. From this point,

the bus will proceed to Presidente Vargas avenue, the second most important street in downtown, built to create access from the suburbs to the commercial centre of the Capital in the early nineties, passing through the popular market and Tiradentes Square. Following with the tour you will see the Metropolitan Cathedral of Rio de Janeiro, Rio's aqueduct, Santo Antonio Church, BNDES and Petrobras buildings reaching Lapa, the most popular night life point in Rio. You will have a panoramic view of the Teatro Municipal, the National Library and the City Council building - all of them inspired in the European 18th century style. Afterwards you will drive through the Flamengo Park, from where you have the chance to see highlight of this tour, Sugar Loaf. This famous mountain is reached by a cable car 1,200 feet high, an experience you will never forget: looking down at Rio from the Sugar Loaf, one of the most spectacular views in the world. In the Cosme Velho district you will board the cog-wheel train, which will take you through the Tijuca Forest to the top of the Corcovado Mountain. The ride takes 20 minutes and is a wonderful opportunity to have a close look at the tropical forest's lush vegetation and enjoy panoramic views of the city and its beaches. Disembarking at the top of Corcovado you may climb the stairs or take the elevator and escalators to the very top of the mountain where you will stand next to one of the Seven Modern World Wonders: The Statue of Christ the Redeemer. From here you have a truly divine view of the "Marvelous City". Following descent, you will get to see some of the most beautiful beaches in Rio.

Meals - Breakfast

DAY 16 - RIO DE JANEIRO

Day at leisure for personal sightseeing and shopping. In the evening attend to a folklore and Carnival show, featuring talented dancers, entertainers, "samba" bands and dazzling costumes, in a spectacular display of Brazilian folklore and Carnival. Transfer to Airport for your flight back to Malta.

Meals: Breakfast.

DAY 17 - RIO DE JANEIRO - MALTA

Flight Rio De Janeiro - Malta.

DAY 18 - MALTA

Arrival in Malta.

**ALL
EXCURSIONS
INCLUDED**



PACKAGE PRICE PER PERSON

BOOK	BEFORE 31 ST MAR	AFTER 31 ST MAR
TWIN SHARING	€ 5299	€ 5499
SINGLE	€ 5779	€ 5779

OUR PACKAGE INCLUDES

- ✓ RETURN INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS MALTA LIMA/ RIO DE JANEIRO/MALTA
- ✓ ONE WAY FLIGHT FROM LIMA TO CUSCO/FROM PUNO TO LIMA/FROM LIMA TO FOZ DO IGUAZU/FROM FOZ DO IGUAZU TO BUENOS AIRES/FROM BUENOS AIRES TO RIO DE JANEIRO
- ✓ AIRLINE TAXES AND FUEL CHARGES
- ✓ 14 NIGHTS IN 4*ACCOMMODATION
- ✓ ALL TRANSFERS
- ✓ ALL EXCURSIONS AS PER ITINERARY
- ✓ 17 MEALS - 13 BREAKFASTS, 3 LUNCHESES, 1 DINNER
- ✓ LOCAL ENGLISH SPEAKING GUIDE
- ✓ COMPREHENSIVE GUIDED SIGHTSEEING
- ✓ ACTIVE ITINERARY WITH UNIQUE CULTURAL FEATURES
- ✓ SERVICES OF AN EXPERIENCED ROCS TRAVEL TOUR MANAGER

VISA REQUIRED

All bookings are subject to our general information, booking conditions and information. Photographs of rooms are indicative of room type available. Facilities described may be seasonal. Rates are per person and include: return flights, accommodation as stated and airline taxes. Fuel surcharge may apply. Special offers applicable only in specific periods. Prices may vary without notice. For a full list of terms & conditions kindly visit www.rocsgrp.com/travel/terms. For a more detailed description, full details of facilities and supplements, please refer to our website. E&OE.