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Wonders of Peru 9 Days - FAQ

1. When will be the best time to travel to Peru?

The best time to visit Peru is during the dry season from May to October, particularly for trekking enthusiasts. This period offers sunny days and clear blue skies, but it's essential to book in advance as it coincides with peak tourist season.

From November to April, visitors can expect more rainfall, with the heaviest rain occurring in January and February. However, traveling during this time has its perks, including fewer crowds, lush green landscapes, and potentially lower prices for flights and accommodations.

Peru's climate varies by region. Coastal areas are cooler, with temperatures ranging from 68°F to 79°F, while Machu Picchu maintains a consistent average of 66°F to 68°F year-round. The Amazon region is warmer, with temperatures around 84°F to 86°F.

2. What is the activity level required for this trip?

This moderately active tour covers a substantial distance each day, with a certain amount of walking during each day's excursions. The pace is steady, though you may encounter uneven surfaces, stairs, steps, and significant slopes along the way. If you extend your trip to the Amazon, expect to navigate jungle trails, making comfort with walking essential.

3. How to Handle Altitude Sickness?

Altitude sickness typically occurs above 2,800m (8,200ft). Machu Picchu sits at around 2,430m, Cusco at 3,400m. To help prevent symptoms, it's recommended to stay hydrated, avoid alcohol and caffeine, drink coca tea, and move at a slower pace. Altitude sickness medication and small oxygen canisters are also available in Peru's high-altitude regions if needed.

The elevation of 3,400m in Cuzco, may be a consideration for those who have heart conditions or are otherwise affected by altitude. We suggest you check with your healthcare provider before signing up for this tour.

4. What is the difference between Land Only and Package price?

The main difference between the "Land Only" price and the "Package" price lies in what is included regarding flights and transfers:

- "Land Only" Price: This option does not include the round-trip flight from your departure city to Lima and the transfers between the airport and the hotel on arrival and departure in Lima, so travelers will need to arrange these separately. This option includes 2 intra-flights between Lima and Cusco.
- "Package" Price: This option includes the airfare from your departure city to Lima and intraflights between Lima and Cusco. It also includes all transfers between the airport and the hotel.

5. How much is the deposit?

The non-refundable deposit is \$450 per person and secures your spot in this limited-seats promotion.

6. What is the payment schedule?

- A non-refundable deposit of \$450 per person is due at booking.
- For those with airfare included tour package, a second payment of \$500 \$1,000 per person is required either 180 days before departure or once the minimum group size is confirmed.
- The final balance is due 90 days before departure.
- Optional tours need to be booked and paid for 45 days prior to departure.

7. Why is a second payment required?

If you choose the package with airfare, a second payment of \$500 - \$1,000 per person is required. This payment is due either 180 days before departure or when the minimum group size is met.

Once the second payment is received, our ticketing team will start working on the international air ticket from your departure city to Lima, Peru.

8. Why do we need to make the second payment so early?

Flights to Peru sell out quickly due to high demand. To secure your seat, we need the second payment to purchase your air ticket in advance.

9. What will the flight routing and schedule be?

Several airlines, including Delta Air Lines, Air Transat, and Copa Airlines, offer flights from Canada to Peru. Most flights include one stopover at major hubs like Atlanta or Los Angeles, with connection times typically under 5 hours. For instance, flights from Toronto to Lima often connect in Atlanta, while flights from Vancouver may stop in Los Angeles or Seattle. If your connection time exceeds 5 hours or involves more than one stop, we'll confirm with you before ticketing. For departures from cities outside the main gateways of Toronto and Vancouver, we'll provide additional flight options to ensure a smooth journey.

10. Can I change, cancel, or upgrade my airfare after it's issued?

The airfare included in our packages is basic economy, which is typically non-refundable, non-changeable, and non-upgradeable. We recommend purchasing travel insurance to cover any unexpected situations. If you wish to upgrade, please notify us before submitting the airfare authorization form, as changes after ticketing are complex and costly.

11. Luggage Requirements

Travelers should bring lightweight luggage that is easy to carry, as some routes may involve narrow streets and stairs. If you purchase the package, only carry-on luggage is included. Check-in luggage will require an additional fee of US\$250 or more for both international and internal flights.

12. What are optional sightseeing tours?

Optional tours are offered to travelers interested in additional sightseeing, meals or activities to supplement the included components of our tours. You may choose to participate in some, all or none of the optional tours which are priced individually. Complete descriptions and prices are listed with each program on our website.

13. When should I book the optional tours?

- Optional tours can be booked at reservation or up to 45 days before departure.
- Many of the optional tours require advance arrangements for hotels, coaches, tour guides, and other reservations, with some also needing a minimum number of participants. We highly recommend pre-booking the optional tours, which can be conveniently paid for by credit card.
- If an optional tour doesn't operate due to low participation or any other unexpected issues, TripOppo will notify you and issue a full refund to the original form of payment.

14. What is included in the optional half-day or full-day tours?

All transportation, entrance fees, sightseeing, an English-speaking tour guide* are included in the half-day or full-day tour options.

* Except for the Lima Museo Larco Tour (driver only with a museum audio system if the group size is fewer than 4 people).

15. Can I purchase optional tours locally?

Yes, when traveling on an escorted tour, some optional tours may be purchased locally from the Tour Manager. However, TripOppo cannot guarantee the availability of these services when purchased locally. Tours purchased locally can only be paid by USD in cash.

16. Can I add optional tours for only select individuals on my reservation?

Yes. For assistance, please call TripOppo agent or email info@tripoppo.com for details.

17. Can I request additional hotel nights before or after the tour, or extend my stay?

Yes. For assistance, please call TripOppo agent or email info@tripoppo.com for details.

18. Who to Contact in Case of Issues?

For any issues or emergencies, contact our on-site tour representative. Emergency contact information will be provided in your itinerary details.

19. Where to Exchange Money?

Currency exchange is available at major airports, banks, and authorized exchange offices in Lima and Cusco. USD cash is widely used, and some places may accept USD directly. It is recommended to bring USD cash.

20. Is the Area Near the Hotel Safe?

Hotels in tourist areas of Lima, Cusco, and the Sacred Valley are generally safe. However, it is recommended to stay vigilant, avoid poorly lit streets at night, and keep personal belongings secure.

21. Local Eating Habits and Popular Foods

Peruvian cuisine is diverse, focusing on fresh ingredients. Popular dishes include ceviche (marinated seafood), lomo saltado (stir-fried beef), and aji de gallina (creamy chicken stew). Meals often feature potatoes, corn, and various Andean grains.

22. How to meet our tour guide?

Your tour guide will meet you in the hotel lobby on the day of your tour. The tour guide's contact information, along with a local emergency number, will be included in your tour documents, which you'll receive 5-7 days before departure. We highly recommend saving these numbers on your phone for easy access if needed.

23. What are the suggested gratuities?

In many South America countries, tour guides and drivers largely depend on gratuities as a key part of their income. The suggested tipping for this tour is US\$112 per passenger including gratuities for tour guide, driver and bell boys. Most of the clients will choose prepay it as it can be paid by credit card and no hassle to bring too much cash to divide to different people.

24. What is the cancellation policy?

Please refer to our booking terms and conditions here: <u>TripOppo Cancellation Policy</u>

25. Do you offer travel insurance?

Yes, we can provide travel insurance quotes. Contact our agent at 1-844-275-6776 or email info@tripoppo.com for more details.

26. Can I request a special meal on the flight?

Yes, requests can be made for special meals. These requests will be sent on your behalf to the airline so long as TripOppo receives request prior to final documents being issued.