



ADVENTURES With Kit-PERU!

November 4-23 2020

Day 1

Wed Nov 4th

Arrive Lima. You'll be met on arrival at the airport and transferred to the hotel. Once you have collected your bags and passed through immigration, look for a driver with a sign with your name on it. I will see you at the hotel.

Please schedule your arrival before 1400hrs to get you sorted out in time to join the group for our welcome dinner tonight! **(I strongly recommend you consider arriving a day or two in advance to deal with jet lag and to give your bags a chance to catch up with you if needed)**

El Patio Hotel <http://www.hostalelpatio.net/>

Or equivalent.



Meet us in the courtyard for dinner this evening—we'll walk over to the restaurant.

Dinner

Day 2

Thu Nov 5th

Breakfast at El Patio



This is your free day in Lima and Miraflores (where we're staying) It's a very safe place to be and a great place to people watch from Kennedy Park—named after John F of course! There are two excellent free walking tours available—to Barranco (photos of this bohemian artsy area above) and into the old city—home of Lima's colonial past, the Larco Museum and the Gold museum. Both meet at the tourist office, hop on the public transit and you tip the guide at the end if you like the tour.

Whatever you choose to do, enjoy the day!

Breakfast

Day 3

Fri Nov 6th

Breakfast at El Patio

Transfer to Airport for morning flight to Arequipa

Transfer to hotel

Hostal Casa de Melgar <https://www.lacasademelgar.com/>

Or Equivalent



On arrival we'll be picked up at the airport and transported to the hotel. Depending on the flight arrival we might check in. At the very least we can dump our bags and head off for a wander through town.

Late this afternoon I strongly recommend joining us for an optional (pay at the gate) tour through Santa Catalina Monastery. Maybe grab a bite to eat in one of the rooftop cafes in the Plaza de Armas after?

Breakfast

Day 4

Sat Nov 7th

Breakfast at Casa de Melgar



Today is your free day in Arequipa. There's lots to do. Free walking tour from Plaza de Armas—just a couple of blocks from the hotel. And you might have noticed that most of the old buildings all seem to be made out of large white stones. There's a half day tour that can take you down to the quarry where you can see them being cut and maybe take a stab at it yourself.

This is a fabulous city for photos. If you're at loose ends lets make a plan! it's your free day but I'd love you to join me for a walk to a place where you can learn about alpaca spinning and weaving. Then maybe a market walk?

Breakfast

Day 5

Sun Nov 8th

Breakfast at Casa de Melgar

This is the beginning of 2 days of travel through the Colca Canyon. Along the way we pass through high plain country at 4800metres.



To the Colca Canyon. Today and the next day are all about small villages and back country and condors! This is a chance to get down into the culture and life of the high plain indigenous people of the area. Our tour differs from most of the rest because we spend our night in a small village quite close to the best place to see the condors. Means we miss the crowds hopefully!



Andean condors are massive birds, among the largest in the world that are able to fly. Because they are so heavy (up to 15 kg), even their enormous 3 metre wingspan needs some help to keep them aloft. For that reason, these birds prefer to live in windy areas where they can glide on air currents with little effort.

There is the possibility of a couple of small walks/hikes over these two days. (1 to 2 hours) Depending on how you feel, you can either join us or hang back. You won't know until you get there whether it'll work for you or not. Hope you can make it—totally worth the effort!

Overnight in Cabanaconda—at 3280 meters. Down from our high point earlier today and much better for sleeping on the first night.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Day 6

Mon Nov 9th

Breakfast at Cabanaconda



To the Colca Canyon and condor viewing. We'll do a small hike in the morning if you like and there will be some walking at the Canyon as well. Might be a place to try out a Colca Sour.....

Then back to Chivay for lunch and a relaxing night at El Refugio.

<https://www.refugiohotelcolca.com/index.php/en/>

Breakfast and lunch

Day 7

Tues Nov 10th

Breakfast at El Refugio

We climb a little today as well—up to 4900 feet. The landscape is extraordinary and all the way along there are places to stop and stretch. Little lakes and flamingos and craft sellers. They're never aggressive in Peru—a nice change from some parts of the world. Time to catch up on your journal, take some photos, and practice your Spanish.



Arrive mid afternoon—free time to explore. Your hotel Hacienda Plaza de Armas is exactly that—right on Plaza de Armas in the heart of it all!

<https://www.hhp.com.pe/>

Breakfast

Day 8

Wed Nov 11th

Breakfast at hotel

Option of 1/2 day to Uros or full day to Taquile with speedboat



Once again this day is optional. My choice would be the full day tour that takes us out to Uros Island—the reed islands that Lake Titicaca is so famous for in the morning and then to Taquile Island for the afternoon. Lunch is included in this tour and the cost for the full day is approx. \$30 USD plus tip to the guide. There is a 45 minute hike uphill on Taquile to get to the village (and lunch). If you didn't want to do this you could opt for the ½ day tour to Uros only, (Approx \$15).



The island is most well known for its intact tradition of knitting men, who, in a reversal of roles, do all the knitting on the island. They produce some of the best hand-made clothes in Peru and have since opened a two-story store right in the heart of the Plaza de Armas where you can buy all their hand-crafted goods.

Breakfast

Day 9

Thu Nov 12th

Breakfast at hotel

Transfer to Train 0730-1750 Titicaca train PeruRail

<https://www.perurail.com/>



What a day! We'll start off at 0800 and should be pulling into Cusco at about 1730hrs this afternoon. This is a fabulous journey with an open car out the back where you can hang out and take photos. There's a band in the pub and you might even be treated to an onboard fashion show. Lunch is included along the way.

Transfer at station to Hotel Colonial



This hotel is in the fashionable San Blas area of Cusco. It's about 200 metres from the Plaza de Armas. I love it because of the bright sunny rooms and the breakfast is great!

Breakfast

Day 10

Fri Nov 13th

Breakfast at Hotel
Colonial



Tour to Pisac. Join us for a trip out to Pisac Market. Markets are one of my favorite things to do anywhere in the world. I'm not much of a shopper but I can spend a whole day in a market. Its all about people watching. Anyway, we'll be here for the morning and depending on the group we could also take a trip up to the ancient ruins up the mountain. Free afternoon.

Breakfast

Day 11

Sat Nov 14th

Breakfast at Hotel Colonial

I'm going to recommend we see if we can leave our main bags in Cusco and pack an overnight bag to take to Machu Picchu for 2 nights. The hotel in Cusco will happily keep our luggage safe.

Tour to Sacred Valley (Maras/Morey/Chinchero/Urubamba/Ollantaytambo) So we head out this morning into the Sacred Valley with stops along the way. After a fabulous buffet of local fare that can't be beat, we'll make one last stop at the ruins of Ollantaytambo before we hop on the *Inca Rail* train in Voyager service up to Aguas Calientes—our home for the next two nights.





Retama Inn

<https://retamamachupicchu.com/>

Breakfast

Day 12

Sun Nov 15th

Breakfast at hotel

There are a number of ways you can do Machu Picchu. You can of course get up really early to catch the sunrise over the ruins. There is a bus—I'll have a ticket for you along with your MP ticket. Or you might want to set out a bit later and avoid the morning crowd. You will have decided this when you booked the trip. (are you hiking Huayna Picchu?) In either case you might want to walk back. There is a trail with stairs. Great views all the way down! You can say in all honesty that you 'hiked at Machu Picchu'....



If you elect to walk back, at the bottom of the mountain is a butterfly farm that's worth a look and they have a little café.

Retama Inn

Breakfast

Day 13

Mon Nov 16th

Breakfast at hotel

A nice relaxing breakfast at the hotel then we board the Inca Rail 360 train –the one with an observation car! At Ollantaytambo we'll hop on a transport to get us back to Cusco

Transfer Ollanta to Cusco 1.5 hrs and the rest of the afternoon is yours.

Breakfast



Day 14

Tues Nov 17th

Free Day in Cusco! Might want to do that optional Photo Tour I told you about? My opinion? Worth every minute of it! You'll get to see Cusco through your lens and learn a great deal about light and angles as well as the local history.

There's also a local show that happens nightly that I've heard great things about. I think I'm going—want to join me?

Day 15

Wed Nov 18th

Breakfast at hotel

Transfer to airport and flight to Iquitos

Free afternoon or optional tour to Belen Market

Casa Morey Hotel <http://www.casamorey.com/>



Located on the left bank of the Amazon river in north eastern Peru, Iquitos is a city with bag loads of culture, charm and character. Whether it be the organised chaos of the moto-taxis careering through the streets, or the exciting hustle and bustle of Belen Market, it cannot be denied that Iquitos is a city



like no other. The beautiful hotel we're in is a remnant of Iquitos past glory days. In the late 1800's Iquitos grew from a little village to a city of 20,000 very much in the same fashion the gold rush towns in Alaska. The 'gold' of course came in the form of white latex tapped from the Amazon's rubber trees.

In the Plaza de Armas you can see what is locally call "The Iron House" –maybe the first prefab house in South America and a relic of the rubber boom—brought piece by piece from Belguim.

Take the afternoon to settle in and explore. Iquitos by the way has the WORST internet in the world. But if you think that's bad, tomorrow we're off to the jungle! I can pretty much guarantee the world will still be turning when we get back..... Tune in, turn on and drop out!

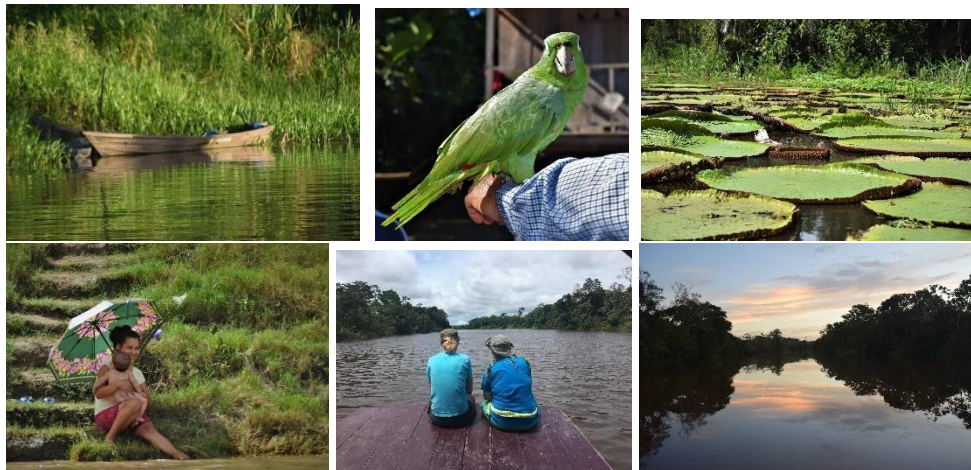
Breakfast

Day 16

Thu Nov 19th

Pickup and transfer to Lodge (Amazonian Explorer)

<https://perujungle.com/the-lodge/#tahuayo-lodge>



4 hour ride with a break...if we need it.

Night excursion

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Day 17 and 18

Fri Nov 20th and Sat Nov 21st

At the Tahuayo Lodge

The lodge has a great variety of excursions. The following is but a sample list of activities to choose from. **What we'll end up doing will be completely dependent on what's possible when we're there and the interests of folks.**

- The Canopy Experience—zipline your way through the Amazon Jungle!
- Hike into forest behind lodge; highly probable to see pygmy marmosets, owl monkeys, yellow-crowned brush tailed rats, wire-tailed manakins. Also possible to see black tamarins, saddle-backed tamarins, trogons.
- Hike to Lake Tapaje, explore by canoe.
- Canoe into tahuampa forest (flooded forest), canoe past giant ficus trees, see hoatzin birds, horned screamers, look for caiman on observation platform.
- Motorboat to terra firme forest, hike into frog valley. See beautiful little poison dart frogs, which were studied by scientists from Uppsala University (Sweden).
- See bat cavity (huge tree whose center has rotted out); braver people can crawl through bat cavity.
- Motorboat to Lake Charo to view pink dolphins, swimming in lake. En route look for squirrel monkeys, sloths, raptors.
- Fish for piranha.
 - Visit native village of El Chino. Visit artisania cooperative. Visit with shaman (subject to his availability). Visit farm. Visit school.
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Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 19

Sun Nov 22nd

Morning activities at the lodge and then back to Iquitos

We'll be heading out just after lunch for the ride up the river to Iquitos. Time to have a shower and then it's a quick walk along the riverfront to our final dinner together. This will be our last evening together. Time to shake the critters out of your socks, return that pair of underwear you borrowed and give the rest of us a hug and a kiss. I'm not keen on goodbyes. Rather than "Good bye all" I'd rather say "Okay where are we going to NEXT??" Safe travels onward all!



Casa Morey

Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Day 20

Mon Nov 23rd

Transfer to Airport

Flight to Lima and home.

Depending on what your flight arrangements are, after breakfast, I'll sort you out with a Moto to the airport.

If you have booked a post night in Lima, with transfer you will be transferred to Miraflores and your hotel for those extra nights. Otherwise—have a safe journey home

END OF SERVICES

Day 21 (post night guests only)

Tues Nov 24th

Breakfast at hotel

Transfer to airport

What's Included

- All transfers as indicated
- Hotels with breakfast
- Tours as mentioned
- Machu Picchu basic entrance, historic site entrance in Cusco (extra to climb Huayna Picchu)
- Perurail Titicaca train Puno to Cusco
- Inca Rail Voyager Level train to MP and 360 level train to Cusco
- All ground transport
- Services of TD and local guides
- Gratuities for Colca Canyon tour, Amazon lodge and PeruRail to Cuzco
- Welcome and Farewell dinners and dinner at El refugio
- Meals as indicated at lodge

What's not included

- **Internal flights (3) and your international flights**
- Meals other than those mentioned
- Gratuities for local guides on optional tours (Machu Picchu guide, any other optional tour)
- Gratuities for Tour Director
- Tours listed as optional
- Pre and post hotel nights
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NOTES:

1. We hope nothing has to change but Peru is Peru and you need to be flexible. You never know when or why we might need to change a hotel but it can come up. As experienced travellers you know it's all about the adventure and the surprise along the way.
2. You don't need to speak Spanish but you certainly have time to give it a try between now and then. Try this: It's free and pretty good.

<https://www.duolingo.com/course/es/en/Learn-Spanish-Online>

3. There is a FAQ on the web page.
4. Do you need trip cancellation/interruption and medical insurance? In a word—yes! Unless you are okay with getting ill or injured and riding it out in Peru then you need a way to get taken care of if anything happens. Trip cancellation covers you for everything from lost bags to cancelled flights and all the things you hope don't happen to you.

5. Do you need shots? Not 'required' but the usual recommended for travel are a smart idea. There is malaria in the Amazon as well as yellow fever. Check with your doc about what you need. The advice of covering up, not getting bit and using bug juice with DEET is well founded. (and works for dengue fever as well).
6. Recommend you download WhatsApp (wifi based communication with me and the rest of the group as well as back home) XE Currency Converter—also works when you're offline! Both free apps.
7. **"Adventures with Kit" trips are unique and well thought out. Please read "Is it for You?" to make sure the trip is right for you.**

Optional Add-On Nazca Lines by Plane!

I've been able to locate a great 2 day package from Lima to visit the famous Nazca Lines. Package includes road transport to and from Nazca with a couple of stops along the way, one night's hotel accommodation and your flight over the Nazca lines in a Cesena 152 (or equiv). This would be scheduled for **Nov 2-3 or 3-4** and you'd meet the rest of the group on Day 1 of the tour Nov 4th on your return to Lima. Mail me if you're interested for details. I THINK the cost is about \$450 USD all in except guides tip.