

## AMAZON TO ANDES ODYSSEY

FROM \$1,945 • 9 DAYS / 8 NIGHTS • MODERATE TRIP Knowmad specializes in private and custom travel. Itineraries and physical difficulty are often flexible.



### TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- Spot wildlife while discovering the Amazon in a comfortable jungle lodge
- Meander the cobblestone streets and bustling markets of Cusco – former center of the Inca Empire
- Mountain bike or horseback ride through the Andean countryside, indigenous villages, and ancient salt pans
- Hike part of the famed Inca Trail to Machu Picchu for a full day of exploring the Lost City

### DETAILED ITINERARY

#### DAY 1 Lima

Upon arrival you'll be met at the airport by a Knowmad Adventures representative and taken to your accommodations centrally located in the Miraflores neighborhood. Explore Peru's diverse and delectable cuisine and visit some of the city's many sites and museums on your own or, depending on your time, make a guided exploration of the city or learn to make ceviche with a local chef on a culinary discovery.\*

- No meals - Casa Inca

#### DAY 2 Lima to Amazon Jungle

After breakfast at your hotel you will be taken to the airport for an approximately two hour flight over the Andes to Puerto Maldonado – jumping off point to the Amazon Jungle. From here you will be met by a Posada Amazonas representative and taken to the banks of the Tambopata River for a 45-minute boat ride deeper into the Amazon until arriving at the Posada Amazonas Jungle Lodge or similar.

A joint project between a Peruvian ecotourism company and the Ese'ejá native community, Posada Amazonas is a pioneer in sustainable tourism in the Amazon. The comfortable lodge is located on its own private reserve near the Tambopata-Candamo National Reserve, and

offers comfortable accommodations while having intimate contact with the jungle. We love this lodge for families and groups looking for a more active jungle experience. If you're interested in alternative jungle lodges and stay lengths please inquire.

After a brief orientation at the lodge you'll walk twenty minutes on the trail to the 115 ft-high Canopy Tower. Ascend to the top and take in expansive views over the Amazonian canopy and the Tambopata River with its abundant wildlife.

- B, L, D – Posada Amazonas or similar

### DAY 3 Amazon Jungle

Awaking before sunrise you'll walk to the river and head upstream by boat to the Tres Chimbadas oxbow lake. Paddling quietly around the lake watch for toucans, monkeys, endangered giant river otters, caimans, horned screamers and other wildlife. Try your hand at catch-and-release piranha fishing before heading to a blind from where you watch colorful macaws, parrots and parakeets descend upon a natural clay lick. After another delicious lunch made using locally produced ingredients take a rest during the hottest part of the day.

In the afternoon you'll visit the Centro Nape, the indigenous community's ethnobotanical center where you learn how the community makes their traditional medicines. After dinner if you'd like to discover the forest at night (a very different place than during the day!) take a guided hike.

- B, L, D – Posada Amazonas or similar

### DAY 4 Amazon Jungle – Cusco – Sacred Valley

After taking the boat back to Puerto Maldonado and a short flight to Cusco, you'll be met at the airport by your guide, head through town, and on to the lower altitudes of the legendary Sacred Valley, a far better place to acclimatize to elevation than Cusco. On the way we'll stop at Awanacancha, an indigenous community project where you'll meet high-Andean peoples, learning about their daily lives and the fascinating production of the textiles so symbolic of their culture. From there continue deeper into the valley and on to panoramic views of the Pisac ruins clinging dramatically to the mountainside. Visit one of South America's most colorful markets in Pisac and head to your charming hotel nestled in the valley.

- B, L – Sonesta Posada del Inca

### DAY 5 Sacred Valley biking or horseback riding

Departing in the morning, drive up the mountains towards Cruzpata where you will begin either a mountain bike or horseback adventure depending on your preference (no experience necessary). Traversing the altiplano landscape with sweeping vistas to snowcapped peaks over 16,000-feet high, you arrive to Moray – a little-known site thought to be an ancient Incan agricultural laboratory. From here you begin descending and pass through a traditional colonial and pre-Hispanic village.

After enjoying a gourmet picnic lunch in the shadows of the Andes, continue on the downhill section to Maras where villagers still harvest the pre-Colombian terraced salt pans in the traditional way. Return to your hotel for a relaxing evening.

- B, L – Sonesta Posada del Inca



## DAY 6 Inca Trail to Machu Picchu

Heading out early you'll take the train along the Urubamba Valley to kilometer 104 and begin hiking the Inca Trail. Crossing a footbridge you pass Winay Wayna ruins with their extensive terracing and water fountains. Another gourmet picnic along the trail will have you refueled. Hiking a total of approximately 5 hours you finally edge along a ridge to catch your first dramatic views of the Lost City of Machu Picchu from the Sun Gate Inti Punku during the late afternoon. Descend towards the citadel taking in the amazing site and reunite with your van that takes you down to Machu Picchu Pueblo for a relaxing evening.

- B, L – Hotel El Mapi



## DAY 7 Machu Picchu

Early risers can watch the sunrise from the Machu Picchu citadel. Or, if you'd like to summit the adjacent sacred peak Wayna Picchu for part of the day, it can be arranged with advance notice.\* This incredibly vast archeological site - lost to the world until well into the twentieth century - is perched amongst Andean peaks and lush cloud forest making it one of the most breathtaking sights in the world. You'll have the opportunity to get a complete guided tour as you begin to unlock the mystery of the Inca, and will also have plenty of time to explore the ruins on your own. Lunch at the adjacent Sanctuary Lodge means you're able to enjoy the whole day without leaving awe-inspiring Machu Picchu. Return to Machu Picchu Pueblo for the evening.

- B, L – Hotel El Mapi



## DAY 8 Machu Picchu – Ollantaytambo - Cusco

Taking the train from Machu Picchu Pueblo after breakfast, you'll have time to roam through Ollantaytambo town and visit the ancient ruins towering above. Arrive to Cusco – formerly the Incan capital and today one of South America's most dynamic cities – before lunch and have the afternoon to explore on your own or accompanied by your guide. Visit Incan architectural jewels such as Korikancha – the temple of the sun, shop at Andean markets, enjoy incredible Peruvian cuisine, and see the colonial cathedrals around the Plaza Central.

- B - Quinoa Boutique

DAY 9 Fly Lima and depart. Or with more time, extend your trip with a visit to Lake Titicaca, the Colca Canyon, or even Ecuador's Galapagos Islands.

- B



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

2013 COSTS \$1,945 per person (4 or more travelers) / \$2,055 per person (3 travelers) / \$2,265 per person (2 travelers). Additionally, regional airfare is estimated at \$505 (Lima/Puerto Maldonado, Puerto Maldonado/Cusco & Cusco/Lima — subject to change). Knowmad Adventures is happy to book and issue these tickets for you.

\$555 single supplement – rates quoted are per person, based on sharing double accommodations. If you request single accommodations you are required to pay the single supplement.

### WHAT YOUR TRIP COST INCLUDES

- Personal pre-departure support
- Expert leadership & guiding
- Accommodations as indicated & based on double-occupancy
- Local excursions as indicated
- Airport transfers as indicated
- Backcountry field arrangements as necessary
- All necessary equipment for adventure excursions
- Ground transportation and support vehicles
- Additional guides and porters as needed
- Entrance fees and permits

### WHAT YOUR TRIP COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

- International and domestic airfare
- Visa, passport, departure/arrival and excess baggage fees
- Trip insurance (we strongly recommend you obtain trip insurance offered by Knowmad Adventures, including trip cancellation insurance)
- Activities listed as optional and/or denoted with asterisk
- Meals not indicated in the itinerary
- Optional tipping to local guides and staff
- Personal items

**TYPE** Flexible Date Private Departures. You choose the date, your travel companions and one of our adventures. This is great for families, groups of friends and couples.

**MODERATE TRIP** More active trips that are suitable for most people in good health. These trips may also venture into remote territory and more rugged terrain. Activities include wildlife viewing, hiking, mountain biking or horseback riding, cultural opportunities, history, train ride, canoeing.

**DEPARTURES** Year round; can be set up to match your dates. The Peruvian high season coincides with their dry season from May through October (see weather section below). The low and rainy season can also be a greener and less crowded time to visit in the highlands and the rainy season in the Amazon actually only get's 10% more rain than the dry season. Consult us for more information on the time of year that best suites you.

**LENGTH** 9 days – 6 nights comfortable hotels, 2 nights jungle lodge

**BEGIN | END** Lima, Peru

## SUMMARY

An adventuresome and comfortable foray into the Amazon combined with a more active approach to the Incan lands of Peru in just nine days makes this a traveler favorite. Find yourself spotting endangered giant otters and macaws in the Amazon, day hiking the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu, downhill mountain biking or horseback riding through Andean villages, relaxing in the Sacred Valley, and discovering Cusco and Machu Picchu with the perfect blend of guided and independent travel.

## AIR TRAVEL

### INTERNATIONAL

Airfare is not included in the land cost of our trips. You may arrange your international airfare independently, or we are happy to offer our feedback and assistance in helping you book it.

### REGIONAL

If booked by Knowmad Adventures, internal airfare for this trip (Lima/Puerto Maldonado, Puerto Maldonado/Cusco & Cusco/Lima) averages \$505, however this is an approximation and the airfare is subject to change upon booking. If you would like to arrange your own regional flights, please consult us prior so we can verify the departure and arrival times.

## WEATHER & WHEN TO GO

The weather in the jungle is warm and humid with average annual maximum temperature of 95°F (33°C) and minimum of 70°F (21°C). The second half of this trip takes place in the Peruvian highlands. Throughout the year here the average temperature is in the mid-50s °F (10-12 °C) and does not fluctuate greatly. Evenings are cooler. There are primarily two seasons: wet and dry. December through March sees much more precipitation than other times of the year and is the less visited season.

Prior to your departure, we provide you with a detailed pre-trip information packet, which includes a recommended pack list, information about the regions you'll be visiting, suggested readings, and up-to-date health information including any recommended vaccinations.

## EXTEND YOUR ADVENTURE



### AREQUIPA & THE COLCA CANYON

Colonial Arequipa – known as ‘the white city’ for its buildings made of the stone sillar – and its picturesque cobblestone streets offer an enchanting look at Peruvian life. It’s also the perfect jumping off point for the Colca. One of the world’s deepest canyons, the Colca is stunning as you watch giant Andean Condors soar amongst thermal winds. Enjoy soothing hot springs after exploring the canyon for a perfect day.

### LAKE TITICACA

Besides being the highest navigable lake in the world, Lake Titicaca is home to diverse traditional cultures including the floating Uros civilization, the Quechua people of Taquile Island, and the Amaru peoples. Come and meet them at the top of the world.

### LIMA

Want to spend more time exploring this great city? Besides getting you a great value for hotels and airport transfers, we can line up a fantastic cooking lesson and culinary city tour, full and half day sightseeing adventures, surrounding ruin visits and much more.

## IS IT FOR ME?

An ideal trip for active families and groups looking to combine Peru's highlights with a visit to the Amazon, this trip takes you beyond the beaten path and helps you see two incredibly unique regions in a short time.

## REFERENCES

Don't take our word for how great our trips are. We'll be happy to provide you with references of satisfied past travelers.

## WHAT'S NEXT?

Ready for the trip of a lifetime? Signing up is easy. Call us at 1-877-616-8747 or email [travel@knowmadadventures.com](mailto:travel@knowmadadventures.com) and reserve your spot. Or simply download our registration form from [www.KnowmadAdventures.com/contact](http://www.KnowmadAdventures.com/contact), fill it out, and send it back to us along with your trip deposit.

PLEASE REFER TO REGISTRATION FORM FOR TERMS & CONDITIONS