



Travel with the World Affairs Council of Charlotte *Magnificent Peru: Discover the Mysteries of the Incas*



Tuesday, May 7th – Wednesday, May 15th, 2019

***Optional 3-day extension to Cusco and Puno available (Lake Titicaca)**

Please contact Jessie Hermann at the World Affairs Council of Charlotte via [email](#) or call 704-687-7762 if you have questions or need more information about the trip.

Prices for the trip and optional extension can be found on Page 14. A deposit of \$500 is due immediately to secure your seat for the trip, with full payment due by February 25, 2019.

***WACC Special Deal at all Belmond Hotels: travelers can redeem a session of massages at each Belmond Hotel, as well as discounts at hotel bars.**

Day 1: Tuesday, May 7, 2019

Charlotte/ Lima

Depart from Charlotte-Douglas International Airport. Time-appropriate meals and in-flight services will be provided. See last page for discounted group flight options through Knight Travel.

Upon arrival, group travelers will be transferred to the hotel.

All main tour accommodations are Belmond Properties, formerly Orient Express Hotels and include the finest and most luxurious hotels in the world in the most incredible locations.

Overnight at [Belmond Miraflores Park](#) – a true urban sanctuary beside the city’s cultural gems



[Belmond Miraflores Park](#)

Day 2: Wednesday, May 8, 2019

Lima

Complimentary breakfast included

We'll start the day in Lima. With its iconic dishes, ceviche and tiradito, Lima is the South American destination for those who love exceptional cuisine. With a wide-range of influences from Africa, the Incas, and the Chinese, its combination of uniquely prepared cuisine is known to enchant even the most demanding of palates.

Fans of Peruvian food like to tell this story: George Auguste Escoffier, the chef who wrote the rules of contemporary French cooking, once decided to rank the world's top cuisines. In his eyes, the best was, of course, French, followed by Chinese, and, in third place, Peruvian. Italian? Spanish? Not even mentioned. While Escoffier may or may not have created this ranking, it's a prophecy fulfilled: Lima, the capital of Peru, is currently the best place in the universe to get a sampling of the highest-ranking restaurant cooking. [READ MORE](#)

We will visit a traditional market and learn to prepare an authentic Peruvian meal. Lunch is included before starting our city tour in Lima.



[Lima, Peru](#)



[Cathedral of Lima](#)

Lima is filled with sophistication and civilization that dates back for thousands of years. Museums display edgy art and one-of-a-kind pottery, churches infused with religious architectural overtones, and an entertainment center with a thriving nightlife makes Lima *the place to be*.

P.M. CITY TOUR (Colonial and Modern Lima with Larco Museum)

This tour will include a visit to the modern and colonial parts of the city of Lima, the "City of Kings", starting in the districts of Miraflores and San Isidro, including an overview of the impressive [Huaca Huallamarca](#). The tour later takes you to the Historic Centre, for a visit to the Santo Domingo Convent -a World Heritage Site- where the remains of patron saints St. Martin of Porres and Saint Rose of Lima lie. You then will be able to see the Main Square, surrounded by the Presidential Palace, the Archbishop's Palace, the Municipality of Lima and the Cathedral. This section ends with a stop to sample a pisco sour. The final part of the tour takes you to the [Larco Museum](#), an incomparable private collection of treasures from ancient Peru. This inspiring collection helps visitors to understand and enjoy more than five thousand years of Peruvian history, represented by more than 45,000 exhibits.

Lunch and dinner included

Overnight at [Belmond Miraflores Park](#)



[Historic Centre, Lima](#)

Complimentary breakfast included

This morning after breakfast, you will be transferred to the airport to board the included departure flight to Cusco.

A visit to [Cusco](#) will send you back to ancient Andean culture. What was once the historical capital of the Inca Empire, Cusco is the perfect destination to learn about the rich history of Peru.

Striking and natural, Cusco's history lives in its streets, squares, valleys and towns. Stunning destinations and examples of fine engineering by Inca stonemasons can be seen in Choquequirao, Sacsayhuamán, Kenko, Tambomachay, Ollantaytambo and Machu Picchu, the Inca jewel built with the wisdom of the ancient Peruvians in an ecological environment. Captivating landscapes such as the Sacred Valley, where the mountains are clothed by terraces. [Read More](#)

Upon arrival in this historic city, our personnel will greet you and transfer you to your hotel. On route, we will make a stop for a visit to the [Sarapampa Ranch](#). This place is a living expression of the corn harvesting culture, which has been kept alive since the beginning of ancient Peru. You will go through cornfields and discover the Giant White Corn, a unique specimen in the world thanks to its characteristics and exceptional dimensions. In addition, you will have the opportunity to visit the Interpretation Center, where you will learn about the agriculture of Peru.

Lunch included

Enjoy a delicious lunch in the Estate's terrace, surrounded by natural beauty.

Dinner included

Overnight at [Belmond Hotel Rio Sagrado](#) - An oasis rich with the spirit of the Incas, set in lush gardens beside the rushing Urubamba River.



[Cusco, Peru](#)



[Sarapampa Ranch](#)



[Urubamba, Peru](#)



[Belmond Hotel Rio Sagrado](#)

Complimentary breakfast included.

After breakfast, you will be transferred from Cusco to Ollantaytambo station.

LUXURY TOUR TO MACHU PICCHU ON ONBOARD OF THE HIRAM BINGHAM TRAIN

A visit to one of the most important tourist destinations in the world: [Machu Picchu](#).

Meaning “Old Peak” or “Old Mountain” in the Quechua Indian language, Machu Picchu sits more than 7,000 feet above sea level in the Andes Mountains. A symbol of the Incan Empire and built around 1450 A.D., Machu Picchu was named one of the New Seven Wonders of the World in 2007.

The excursion begins with a magical trip on the Hiram Bingham Train. Named after the famous American explorer that brought Machu Picchu to the world’s attention in 1911, the Belmond Hiram Bingham is one of South America’s most luxurious train rides.

The Hiram Bingham's carriages that hosts up to 84 guests are luxuriously painted in their distinctive blue and gold colors and are furnished in the style of the 1920's Pullman carriages. Each carriage has been decorated in polished wooden panels and brass finishings, with large chairs and plenty of space to stretch out.

The route of this glamorous and exclusive train ride goes through the Sacred Valley and includes a delicious 5-star brunch, Peruvian cocktails and wine, and magnificent Andean scenery on the way to the town of [Aguas Calientes](#). When you arrive, you will start the ascent to the ruins, which will be one of the most unforgettable experiences of the entire trip. In Machu Picchu, your guide will show you the secrets of one of the Seven Modern Wonders of the World.



[Machu Picchu](#)



[Hiram Bingham Train](#)



[Sacred Valley](#)

Take time to sit, relax, and watch the unfolding Peruvian landscape from the Observation car, which is furnished in elegant dark wood, polished brass and large cushioned seats.

Coca tea and oxygen are available for those who may be affected by the altitude. However, contrary to popular perception, the altitude decreases from Cusco to Machu Picchu.

Lunch included.

Enjoy the remainder of your afternoon at your leisure to explore the area, relax and take some impressive photos.

Retreat to your oasis of calm and enjoy teatime at the exclusive Belmond Sanctuary Lodge with a free afternoon to enjoy hotel amenities or continue exploring Machu Picchu.

Dinner included

After enjoying an afternoon exploring, dinner will be served at the Belmond Sanctuary Lodge.

Overnight at [Belmond Sanctuary Lodge](#) – a jewel of this trip, as it's the only hotel located at the entrance of Machu Picchu. Sitting in the shadow of the Lost City, this stylish retreat lets you beat the citadel's crowds.



[Statue of Pachacutec](#)



[Mount Machu Picchu](#)



[Machu Picchu Ruins](#)



[The Temple of the Sun, Machu Picchu](#)

Complimentary breakfast included

SECOND VISIT TO MACHU PICCHU

If you are a lover of hiking, this extraordinary experience is for you. An expert guide will meet you and guide you to climb to the top of Mount Machu Picchu. The trail is steep and parts of it include several sections of stone staircases carved directly into the mountainside to make for a slightly challenging but authentic and fun hike. **Optional tour includes entrance ticket, bus ride and a guide. This climb is based on ticket-availability and will be first-come, first-served.**

There are miles of Inca trails in Peru, but the world-famous hike on the Camino de Inca, or the Inca Trail, in the Sacred Valley to Machu Picchu is the most popular way to get to the ancient ruins. Highlights include the two 4,000-meter passes and entering Machu Picchu through the Sun Gate. [Read More](#)

Nestled between the jaw-dropping peaks of Machu Picchu and Wainapicha mountains, this city is built by immaculately stacked granite stones. It is a testament to the incredible work ethic and organization of the Incas, providing a unique look into Peru's history. [Read More](#)

Lunch included

Enjoy lunch served at [Belmond Sanctuary Lodge](#), strategically located next to the Machu Picchu citadel for a breathtaking view while you eat.

After lunch, you will board the train for the return journey. On the way back you will experience the unbeatable flavors of [Peruvian cuisine](#), as well as a live show of the best in music and dance from Peru and around the world. Transport will be waiting at the station to take you back to your hotel.

Dinner included

Overnight at [Belmond Hotel Rio Sagrado](#)

Complimentary breakfast included

TOUR TO THE AUTHENTIC SACRED VALLEY

After breakfast, start the day by visiting [Chinchoero](#), a small picturesque Andean village located high up on the windswept plains of Anta with beautiful views overlooking the Sacred Valley of the Incas. You will have the unique opportunity to enter the home of a local textile artisan, where you will see some of his original work and learn about his techniques, as well as the creative process. Then visit its significant Inca ruins dating from the end of the 15th Century, as well as a beautiful traditional church. Afterwards, on the road to [Ollantaytambo](#), you will stop at a viewpoint, for one of the best views of the beautiful Sacred Valley.

Lunch is included

Lunch will be served at a local restaurant.

You will then continue on to Ollantaytambo, one of the most representative building complexes of the Inca Empire and site of one of the Spanish Conquistadors' rare strategic defeats. Famous for its terraced fields, Ollantaytambo was a very effective fortress and a religious center.

Dominated by two massive Inca ruins, the quaint village of Ollantaytambo, also called Ollanta, is the best surviving example of Inca city planning, with narrow cobblestone streets that have been continuously inhabited since the 13th century. After the hordes passing through on their way to Machu Picchu die down around late morning, Ollanta is a lovely place to be. [Read More](#)

Overnight at [Belmond Palacio Nazarenas](#) – built on Inca Foundations where rich history meets modern indulgence in Cusco's fairytale hideaway.



[Chinchoero Market](#)



[Shaman in the Apu mountains](#)

Complimentary breakfast included

VISIT TO PIKILLACTA & ANDAHUAYLILLAS

Start the morning by visiting [Pikillacta](#), one of the most important administrative centers of the pre-Inca period. A village of the Wari people, Pikillacta was built around 800 A.D. and used for approximately 2,000 years before the Incas took over. It has more than 700 buildings and is a great example of early engineering knowledge. After exploring the ancient city, travel into the Sacred Valley to the south east, as far as the village of [Andahuaylillas](#), a picturesque village in which the main attraction is the church of San Pedro. The church is one of the most important examples of Andean Baroque architecture. It was built at the beginning of the 16th Century and the interior decoration is impressive, especially the murals representing heaven and hell.



[Pikillacta](#)

Lunch included

Enjoy a delicious lunch at one of the best restaurants in Cusco.

CITY TOUR - CUSCO AND SACSAYHUAMAN

For its splendid charms and its proximity to Machu Picchu—about three hours by train—Cusco has established itself as one of South America’s hottest tourist destinations. Its atmospheric Old Town is awash with hotels, bars, gift shops, and restaurants. Peruvian cuisine, led by a handful of passionate local chefs, has undergone a dramatic revival in recent decades, and while the capital city of Lima is the country’s fine-dining hub, Cusco has not been ignored—there are some amazing meals to be had here. With exceptional things to eat, explore, and experience, Cusco is a world-class destination at the top of the world. [READ MORE](#)



[Basilica and Convent San Pedro](#)

You will visit the city of Cusco, declared as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO and a place of a “particular essence”. The tour will start at the [Koricancha temple](#), an ancient Inca palace and main worship center of the Sun god, where the order of the Dominicans built a precious church that lies at the top. Then, you

will head to the Plaza de Armas, where the Cathedral is located. After this, you will visit the fortress of Sacsayhuaman, an Inca building known for its massive walls of hewn stone, which is placed in a strategic location on a hill with a wide view of the city. Finally, you can enjoy delicious snacks and sparkling wine in an exclusive viewpoint, with an incomparable view of the Imperial City.

Independent dinner

Overnight at [Belmond Palacio Nazarenas](#)



[Koricancha Temple](#)

Day 8: Tuesday, May 14, 2019

Cusco

Complimentary breakfast included

Enjoy your day of leisure to relax or wander the city on your own. You can also take one of our optional tours in Cusco and the Sacred Valley.

Independent lunch.

Dinner included.

Enjoy a delicious farewell dinner served at one of the top restaurants in Cusco.

Overnight at [Belmond Palacio Nazarenas](#)



[Cusco](#)

Day 9: Wednesday, May 15, 2019

Cusco / Charlotte, NC

Complimentary breakfast included

At scheduled time, transfer to the airport to board your flight to your next destination. Arrive in Charlotte Douglas International Airport the following day. Welcome home!

OPTIONAL 3-Day Extension
Wednesday, May 15, 2019

Cusco / Puno (Lake Titicaca)

Complimentary breakfast included.

TITICACA TRAIN TO PUNO

This spectacular train trip starts in the historical city of Cusco and goes South, to [Puno](#), by the side of [Lake Titicaca](#). The glass windows on the Titicaca train will let you perfectly observe the beautiful landscape. The train slowly ascends to very high and cold places, around the magnificent Andes mountain range, over the deep Huatanay River valleys. Then, the train goes through the Andean plains, where you can see vicunas and alpacas grazing among the small villages along the road. The trip includes a stop at La Raya, the highest spot of the route, to observe the spectacular landscape at 4,300 meters above sea level. The trip includes a three-course lunch on board the train.

Upon arrival in Puno, our staff will greet you and transfer you to your hotel.

Lunch included

Independent dinner

Overnight at [Libertador Lago Titicaca Puno](#) located at one extreme of Titicaca in the Bay of Puno



[Lake Titicaca](#)



[Puno, Peru](#)



[Libertador Lago Titicaca](#)

Complimentary breakfast included.

After breakfast in the hotel, a full day of touring this enchanting city awaits.

AMANTANI ISLAND & UROS ISLANDS

Today, you will have your excursion to [Amantani Island](#), located at an elevation of 4,150 miles. The island is famous for its unique terraced hillsides where people used to farm. Pre-Incan people claimed that this island was a sacred place, and it still imparts some of that magic.

Next on the itinerary is a stopover at the handicraft center and the main square. Then, it is time for a delicious lunch.

Lunch included

Before returning to Puno, you will visit the famous floating [Uros](#) Islands made out of reeds, whose inhabitants still live according to the customs of their ancestors.

Independent dinner

Overnight at [Libertador Lago Titicaca Puno](#)



[Amantani Island](#)



[Lake Titicaca, Peru](#)



[Uros Islands](#)

Complimentary breakfast included

At scheduled time, transfer to the airport to board your flight to your next destination. On route, you will make a stop to visit Sillustani.

VISIT TO SILLUSTANI CHULLPAS

Your excursion begins on the [Pan-American Highway](#) going southbound. You will visit the [Sillustani](#) archeological site, whose appeal is the tall, stone burial towers. Some towers stand 12 meters in height and are 7.5 meters in diameter. These towers have the lovely Lake Umayo in the background, which makes it an experience you will never forget.

Then, continue the route to the airport where you will board your included flight to Lima and onward to home. Group flight is overnight on American Airlines.



[Sillustani](#)



[Lake Umayo](#)

PRICE PER PERSON BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

*Single occupancy rate available for an additional \$2,595

Min. 15 Travelers

\$6,435

Min. 20 Travelers

\$5,655

AIR TRAVEL:

Deadline to secure discounted American Airlines tickets through Knight Travel is **February 1, 2019**

You may also book air travel independently

Min. 10 Passengers

\$1,449

Min. 15 Passengers

\$1,402

Min. 20 Passengers

\$1,378

LAKE TITICACA EXTENSION - PRICE PER PERSON BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

*Single occupancy rate available for an additional \$275

10 Travelers

\$1,140

15 Travelers

\$985

PLEASE NOTE: Due to high demand and unique room configuration, the Sanctuary has allocated different category rooms for the group block. Rooms will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis according to availability. The standard room is included in the trip price. For a Superior Terrace room, add \$200 per person. For Deluxe (panoramic view - may or may not have a terrace), add \$300. Room type will be confirmed at time of booking.

Price includes top-level hotels, all breakfasts, multiple lunches and dinners, local transportation, and a highly qualified tour manager with dedicated local guides. Itinerary is subject to change as WACC secures meetings with US diplomats in Peru, as well as with local political and community leaders.

- A deposit of \$500 is due by **January 25, 2019** to secure your seat for the trip.
- Full payment is due by **February 25, 2019**
- If you are traveling alone but would like a roommate, please let us know as soon as possible and we will work on matching you with another traveler.
- Business or First Class air travel is available. Please contact Jeff Knight (jknight111@hotmail.com) as soon as possible if you are interested in an upgrade.
- Air/government taxes and fuel surcharges will be billed at prevailing rate at the time of billing.
- Please note that a 3% processing charge will be added to your payment if you choose to pay by credit card due to travel agency requirement. No additional charge if you pay by check.
- Travelers must be members of good standing with the World Affairs Council of Charlotte. If you are not a member, please contact jessie.hermann@worldaffairscharlotte.org or call 704-687-7757. Individual membership starts at \$60 and is tax-deductible.