



## PERU

### AMAZON CRUISE ABOARD THE M/V ARIA Luxury Natural History Voyage



<b>DURATION:</b>	10 days / 9 nights
<b>SEASON:</b>	April through December
<b>DEPARTURES:</b>	Guaranteed with a minimum of 2 participants
<b>TRIP RATING:</b>	Easy/Moderate River Cruise & Nature Tour, Grade (I) - This active, soft adventure includes a 7-night cruise and 2-3 hour hikes on occasionally unmaintained rainforest trails plus sightseeing on motorized boat excursions.
<b>2024 DATES:</b>	On request every week during the season and subject to availability.

#### INTRODUCTION:

The mystique and allure of the Amazon beckons those who are fascinated with the natural world. The Peruvian Amazon is home to the most biologically diverse wildlife on earth with 293 species of mammals, over 3,000 species of colorful, tropical birds and butterflies, a myriad of insects, reptiles and amphibians, and waters rich with an abundance of fish and aquatic wonders such as the pink river dolphin. Over 25,000 plant species have been identified in Amazonia and it is hypothesized at least as many remain yet undiscovered.

This voyage takes you deep into the heart of the world's greatest wilderness through an ever-changing vista of lush tropical rainforest. Our elegant riverboat, the **32 passenger M/V Aria**, plies these waters with comfort and grace, affording superb wildlife viewing from her observation deck. The 16 air-conditioned modern suites feature panoramic windows, private baths, and in-suite sitting areas. Following daily excursions, you return to gourmet meals paired with vintage South American wines. Some nights, after dinner, you have the opportunity to partake in night expeditions to experience the nocturnal wildlife inhabiting the region. You begin the journey in Iquitos after a spectacular flight over the Andes from Lima. Traveling to the village of Nauta and navigating upriver on the mighty Amazon, you explore several of its tributaries on the way to **Pacaya-Samiria National Reserve**. Our expert naturalist guides accompany you on daily excursions aboard small, motorized boats or on trails through the rainforest. The guides' ability to spot wildlife is uncanny, though by the end of your journey you'll be astounded at your own prowess. Visiting *ribereños* (river dwellers) in their villages, experiencing sustainable resource management projects, meeting local subsistence farmers, going fishing for piranha, and seeking out rare plants and animals such as the world's largest aquatic plant, the giant water lily are some of the incredible adventures on this trip. Following your expedition, return to Iquitos for a brief city tour, then fly back to Lima and connect home.

## Peru: Amazon Cruise

### DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY:

#### DAY 01 (THU): LIMA

Upon arrival to Peru's capital city, you will be met at the airport by a Southwind representative and transferred to the elegant [JW Marriott Hotel](#) in the coastal suburb of Miraflores.

#### DAY 02 (FRI): LIMA / IQUITOS / AMAZON / MARANON RIVER

After breakfast, the early morning is at leisure to explore the upscale Miraflores district, where you will walk along the boulevard and gardens across from the hotel and visit the Larcomar shopping promenade overlooking the Pacific. Then, you will be transferred from the hotel to the airport's Domestic Terminal with check-in assistance for your 1 hr 45 min flight over the Andes to **Iquitos**. On arrival you will be met at the airport and driven through the city's outskirts on the way to the port at **Nauta**. Lunch will be served at the Nauta Lounge, or we will provide a box lunch en route depending on the flight arrival time. In the afternoon, we will set off on your first skiff excursion along the **Marañon River**. At 5:00pm we will embark on the [M/V Aria](#). Cast off and begin a journey of discovery into the greatest wilderness on Earth. Tonight, you'll have a safety drill and briefing in the air-conditioned lounge, where you will learn about life on board and meeting the naturalist guides. You will also meet your cruise director, who will use video, photos, and maps to introduce the details of your journey deep into the Peruvian Amazon. Then, a delicious welcome dinner is served: sit down, relax, sip fine South American wine, toast the beginning of a beautiful journey and enjoy the innovative Amazonian cuisine, crafted by the Executive Chef Pedro Miguel Schiaffino. Enjoy a nightcap as you cruise slowly up the Amazon as the stars above present an incredible spectacle of both northern and southern constellations. (B,L,D)

#### DAY 03 (SAT): YANAYACU - PUCATE RIVER / MARANON RIVER

Rise early to be on the skiffs this morning. Birdsongs greet the day as we venture into the jungle to visit the **Yanayacu - Pucate River** at the edge of Pacaya Samiria National Reserve. On the black water river you can kayak, canoe and swim but also observe the vibrant flora and fauna while looking for macaws and several species of primates like the capuchin and squirrel monkeys as well as the famous Amazon River dolphins – either pink or gray. Amazonian people hold the belief that these dolphins possess the magical power to turn into men and women of great beauty. Return to the M/V Aria for a tasty lunch. This afternoon we glide along the **Marañon River**, watching the different species of flora and fauna as we approach the Casual community, where we will hike on land. Our guides will introduce us to native people doing subsistence farming. After learning how they cultivate wild plants and trees, we delve deep into the nearby forest to see the wealth of fruit trees and medicinal plants hidden in the jungle. We also see a plethora of wildlife, so keep your binoculars on hand to observe a variety of birds such as tanagers and orioles, as well as various reptiles and amphibians. Keep an eye out for the beautiful and eye-catching but poisonous frogs along this fascinating trail. Return to M/V Aria and before dinner sip a classic Peruvian Pisco Sour on the Upper Deck while watching the sunset. Then, join for a crew presentation and dinner while we navigate the Marañon River. (B,L,D)

#### DAY 04 (SUN): SAMIRIA RIVER / NAUTA CANO OR AMAZONIAN NATURAL PARK

This morning, board the skiffs to explore a fascinating black water stream which is part of the vast Amazon flooded forest within the **Pacaya-Samiria National Reserve**. Your guides will tell you about the jungle as you explore what scientists call a "gallery forest," because of its dense vegetation creating a tunnel of leaves. As you explore this type of riparian vegetation, watch above for parrots, macaws, and fluffy monk saki monkeys. After our arrival at a particular point, with our poles and bait we have the opportunity to try our hand at catching some of the more than 3,000 species of tropical fish in the Amazon Basin. One of our objectives will be to catch piranha, the small carnivorous fish with a fearsome reputation that is considered a good food source by the locals. Return to the M/V Aria for lunch and an optional Natural History presentation in the lounge. Later this afternoon venture out for a singularly thrilling jungle walk and exploration across suspended bridges deep into the Amazon rainforest canopy. On your way back to the M/V Aria, you may see alligators, frogs and fishing bats. As sunset approaches, the jungle is filled with the warning signals of howler monkeys delineating their territory. Nightfall ushers in a rainforest symphony as nocturnal animals send out their calls among the rainforest canopy. Return to the M/V Aria for a crew presentation and dinner. This evening check the telescope on the night sky to identify the planets and constellations. (B,L,D)

#### DAY 05 (MON): NAUTA TOWN / VILLAGE VISIT / BIRTHPLACE OF THE AMAZON

Get up early to enjoy the **Marañon River** with your morning coffee as the M/V Aria skirts the edge of the vast rainforest and approaches port town of Nauta. A sumptuous daily breakfast is served buffet style and featuring a wide variety of dishes, plus Peruvian specialties and fresh-squeezed fruit juices. You'll walk around Nauta to gain insights

## Peru: Amazon Cruise

into the life of these native peoples. You will also visit the local fresh market with your guides on hand to point out the different fish caught by local fishermen and all the various types of indigenous fruits. Later, you may explore the Sapi Sapi Lagoon. Return to the riverboat for a delicious lunch. This afternoon you will witness one of the great spectacles of the Southern Hemisphere: the sun shining over the origin of the Amazon River. Here the junction of two major tributaries, the **Ucayali and the Marañon**, form one of the greatest rivers in the world – certainly this is nature at its most captivating. Today, you say goodbye to your 4-day travelers and greet new friends for the remaining 5-day trip as we start our journey together along the Marañon River. Enjoy your dinner and a gourmet meal at the air-conditioned dining room aboard the M/V Aria. (B,L,D)

### **DAY 06 (TUE): UCAYALI RIVER / PACAYA RIVER**

Wake this morning on the mighty Amazon. As our boat continues this time upriver, be amazed by the ever-changing panorama of jungle life. Embark on a morning skiff ride along the **Ucayali River**, watching the warm sunshine spread over this verdant ecosystem. As we float down the river, past the occasional farmer or fishermen paddling in their canoes, keep your binoculars ready to spot wildlife. We may see terns, orioles, tropical songbirds, black collared hawks and even a sloth. Be especially keen for the unusual and famous pink dolphins. Return to the M/V Aria for a refreshing lunch perhaps followed by a restful siesta. This afternoon is yours to ride the skiffs and observe the wildlife activity to sunset along the black waters of the **Pacaya River**, including some of the 13 species of primates found in Pacaya-Samiria National Reserve, including tamarins, howlers, capuchin, squirrel monkeys, dusky titi monkeys and pigmy marmoset monkeys. You will hear the second symphony of the Amazon rainforest as other nocturnal animals send their shrill calls across the treetops. En route back to the boat, you may see other nocturnal creatures, such as huge caimans and alligators. Return to the M/V Aria for a crew presentation and dinner while you navigate on the headwaters of the Amazon River. (B,L,D)

### **DAY 07 (WED): PACAYA RIVER / UCAYALI RIVER / TAPICHE RIVER**

The rewards of our early start today are plentiful. **Pacaya-Samiria National Reserve**, a flooded forest covering five million acres at the headwaters of the Amazon basin. Your morning excursion will be accompanied by abundant bird song, as you glide in small boats past riverbanks filled with large-billed terns, laughing falcons, gray tanagers, sandpipers, exotic short-tailed parrots, and dozens of other vibrantly hued birds. Enjoy a breakfast picnic accompanied by jungle symphony and fishing along the black waters of the **Pacaya River**. As you fish, trained naturalist guides will tell the story of the area and its inhabitants. Return to the riverboat for a fulfilling lunch and a mid-day break. In the afternoon, cruise the Amazon's largest tributary, the **Ucayali River**. This area is home to the slow-moving three-toed sloth, iguanas, orioles and horned screamers. On the river, see and meet native balseros, or native fisherman, demonstrating their skill and their catch. We should see a type of "armored" catfish, with a shell-like skin, that they take to the Requena village market. Along the way we will see "banana balsero" rafts loaded with hundreds of clusters of bananas drifting down the river. Your naturalist guide will tell you about sustainable development projects carried out in this region of the Peruvian Amazon. As we make our way back to our riverboat, you may see caiman, frogs and fishing bats. Back on board of the M/V Aria, enjoy another delightful dinner this evening and a restful night. (B,L,D)

### **DAY 08 (THU): CLAVERO LAKE / SAN JOSE FLOODED FOREST**

After a nutritional breakfast, this morning we have some options for activities, choose to go on a jungle walk. You will search for wildlife encounters and learn first-hand about the value of medicinal plants found in the jungle, you may also see the magnificent Ceiba tree, the tallest in the Amazon or the beautiful and eye-catching but poisonous frogs along these fascinating trails. Opportunity to make brief but fun trips in traditional Amazonian wooden canoes, kayaking and to swim on the black waters of the **Yarapa or Clavero Rivers**, will also be presented. Life jackets, ponchos, rubber boots, and fresh water are always available on our riverboat. Return to the M/V Aria. From this point, we start sailing downstream toward Nauta. Before a tasty lunch, participate in a fun and congenial cooking demonstration. In the afternoon, you will board our comfortable skiffs to sail from the Ucayali River and take a short jungle walk in the **San Jose flooded forest** and see the unforgettable giant water lilies. A vast variety of wildlife: terns, tropical songbirds, pipites, black collared hawks and sloth share this wonderful place with us. Once back on board the M/V Aria, the ship will continue its journey downstream, navigating towards the headwaters of the Amazon River, where the Ucayali and Marañon Rivers merge. Meet in the lounge with the naturalist guides for the crew presentation. The guides will introduce some of the "behind the scenes" crew members whom you may not have met yet. These are the people who worked to ensure your memorable trip has been filled with countless exceptional experiences. Enjoy a gourmet farewell dinner in the ship's dining room. (B,L,D)

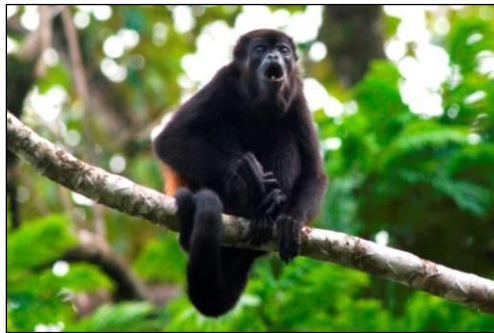
## Peru: Amazon Cruise

### **DAY 09 (FRI): AMAZON / IQUITOS / LIMA**

After a delightful breakfast, assemble for a travel briefing followed by a morning skiff excursion near **Nauta** for those who want a final chance to photograph the natural setting and take in the scenery. Return to the M/V Aria before late morning, with time to finish packing. After a light lunch you disembark and drive into **Iquitos** or a box lunch may be provided en route depending on flight schedules. Iquitos is a unique and remote city. With a population of almost 400,000, it is the largest city in the world that is unreachable by road--planes and boats are the only mode of transport. This bustling town was once a rich center of the rubber industry and even has a house built by Gustave Eiffel. We'll take you to the Manatee Rescue Center, where biologists and volunteers take care of endangered Amazon manatees and dolphins seized by conservation authorities. Following a presentation by staff biologists, visit the San Juan Amazonian Indian Market for a last chance to shop for local handicrafts and folk art. Arrive to the airport in the afternoon and say goodbye to the staff as you board the flight back to **Lima**. Upon arrival in Lima, connect on your own with a short walk to the International Terminal for your overnight flight home. (B,L)

### **DAY 10 (SAT): USA**

Arrive in the US this morning and make onward connections home.



### **NOTES ON THE ITINERARY:**

Please note that the day-to-day schedule must be considered approximate. The exact order of the activities and specific features may be altered due to air schedules, water levels, wildlife sightings and navigational and safety considerations. The itinerary indicated above is for the dry season (June-October), with some changes during the flooded season (November-May). This program is suitable for physically fit participants accustomed to outdoor activities age 7 and up. Regular departures may include families with kids.

### **2024 LAND COST:**

	<u>First Deck Suite</u>	<u>Second Deck Suite</u>
2-3 participants:	from \$8,900 ppd	from \$9,250 ppd
4-12 participants:	from \$8,800 ppd	from \$9,150 ppd ( )
Single Supplement:	from \$2,400	from \$2,500

ppd = per person based on double occupancy on the first (lower) or second (upper) deck.  
Price does not include international nor the in-country Lima-Iquitos-Lima flight.

**Accommodations:** All 16 cabins feature large outward-facing panoramic windows, AC and in-suite sitting areas with either 2 twin beds or 1 king bed. For families traveling with children, all cabins are equipped with a sofa sleeper. There are also 4 interconnecting suites on the First Deck (#'s 103-105 & 104-106).

**First Deck Suites (8):** 250 sq ft. (#s 101 to 108)  
**Second Deck Suites (8):** 250 sq ft. (#s 201 to 208)

**Children's Discount:** Children 7-11 years old at the time of travel are entitled to a discount of \$1,600 ppd on the First Deck Suites and \$1,650 ppd on the Second Deck Suites of the *Amazon Cruise* Land Cost. If a child 7-11 years old sleeping on sofa bed, shares a First Deck Triple Suite with the parents, the discount will be \$4,500.

## Peru: Amazon Cruise

### AMAZON CRUISE SHORT VERSION (7 days/6 nights):

Travelers with limited time can choose a 5-day cruise aboard the M/V Aria. The itinerary is the same as the 8-day cruise beginning with a Sunday arrival to Lima and Monday flight to Iquitos (Day 05 of the 8-day Itinerary). Upon arrival to Iquitos you drive on a paved road for 1.5 hours to the small port town of Nauta where you catch the M/V Aria that evening. The cruise continues until the end of Day 10.

#### Outlined 7-day Itinerary:

DAY 01 (SUN): LIMA  
DAY 02 (MON): LIMA / IQUITOS / NAUTA / BIRTHPLACE OF THE AMAZON RIVER  
DAY 03 (TUE): UCAYALI RIVER / PACAYA RIVER  
DAY 04 (WED): PACAYA RIVER / UCAYALI RIVER / TAPICHE RIVER  
DAY 05 (THU): CLAVERO LAKE / SAN JOSE FLOODED FOREST  
DAY 06 (FRI): AMAZON / IQUITOS / LIMA  
DAY 07 (SAT): USA

#### 2024 SHORT VERSION LAND COST:

	<u>First Deck Suite</u>	<u>Second Deck Suite</u>
2-3 participants:	from \$5,350 ppd	from \$5,550 ppd
4-12 participants:	from \$5,250 ppd	from \$5,450 ppd
Single Supplement:	from \$1,500	from \$1,550

ppd = per person based on double occupancy on the first (lower) or second (upper) deck.  
Price does not include international nor the in-country Lima-Iquitos-Lima flight.

**Children's Discount:** Children 7-11 years old at the time of travel are entitled to a discount of \$900 ppd on the First Deck Suites and \$950 ppd on the Second Deck Suites of the *Amazon Cruise* Short Version Land Cost. If a child 7-11 years old shares a First Deck Triple Suite with the parents, the discount will be \$3,200.

#### SERVICES INCLUDED:

- All **transfers** and ground transportation in private vehicles with professional drivers.
- Luggage handling, flight check-in assistance in Lima and Iquitos and return flight reconfirmation.
- Native, English/Spanish-speaking **guides** for all excursions.
- All **meals** as outlined (B=breakfast, L=lunch, D=dinner). Gourmet dinners on board includes fine South American wines. Vegetarian diets accommodated on request (advance notification required). For other diets, consult your travel specialist before making a reservation.
- All **accommodations in first-class (5 star) hotels** as listed (or at similar hotels), on a shared basis with private baths. Advanced bookings are recommended if you require double beds (King/queen) for couples, or plan to Arrive early or extend your stay.
- **Cruise ship accommodations** as described on a double basis with private bathrooms and hot water showers. All Design Suites feature panoramic, river facing floor to ceiling windows. Air-conditioned Suites are equipped with two twin beds that are convertible to a king size bed.
- All **guided excursions** as listed or similar. Riverboat excursions are conducted by English-speaking naturalist guides. Other travelers on the cruise will join in. Guests will be divided into 4 groups. There will be 2 excursions per day and one excursion per night. Includes all necessary entrance fees including the Pacaya-Samiria Reserve entrance fee.

#### NOT INCLUDED:

- US domestic or International flights, or flights within Peru.
- Tours, meals (at about \$30-45 each per person) or services not indicated on the itinerary (Extras such as Spa services or Boutique purchases onboard).
- Early arrivals, dayrooms or late check-outs at hotels.
- Personal gear or clothing nor items of a personal nature like laundry or telephone calls.
- Tips to the local staff.

## Peru: Amazon Cruise

- Expenses incurred in preparing for this program such as, but not limited to, non-refundable airline tickets or traveler's insurance, and additional expenses resulting from flight delays, schedule changes, cancellations, or missed connections.

**ESTIMATED AIRFARE:** The Land Cost DOES NOT INCLUDE ANY FLIGHTS. Southwind's ticketing specialist can assist with all your air travel – providing an airfare quote to match your itinerary, personalized support for seating, monitoring schedule changes and coordinating directly with the airlines if any adjustments are needed. You'll also benefit from access to lower contract fares for some routes. Ask about Business Class which is often a good value flying to Peru (Delta, United and Latam offer lie flat seats in Business). Non-stop flights to Lima are available from these US gateways: New York/JFK (Latam 8 hr flight time), Newark (United 8 hr), Los Angeles (Latam 8 hr 30 min), Miami (American & Latam 5 hr 45 min), Fort Lauderdale (JetBlue 5 hr 45 min), Houston (United 6 hr 30 min) and Atlanta (Delta 6 hr 30 min). Estimated international coach fares are \$600-\$1,000/person and \$400/person for Lima-Cusco-Lima with Latam (part of SkyTeam Alliance). If you add the Machu Picchu extension (Lima-Cusco-Lima), budget \$750 per person for all the in-country flights. You have the option to arrange your own flights or redeem award travel yourself if you prefer. Tickets should only be purchased after Southwind notifies you that your trip is confirmed. The airlines request that tickets match your passport name. Upon receipt of your deposit, Southwind provides flight booking details for your travel dates.

### THE M/V ARIA:

As of 2011, the 32-passenger [M/V Aria](#) began to offer an unrivaled premier luxury cruising experience in Peru's remote Pacaya-Samiria National Reserve. The upgraded 147-foot long M/V Aria's fine interiors, furniture, and finishes have been entirely custom-crafted to provide guests the ultimate in onboard comfort while at the same time highlighting the jaw-dropping scenery of the Peruvian Amazon. Peruvian interior designer Jordi Puig was responsible for outfitting the elegant 3-deck M/V Aria along with the comfortable embarkation lounge in Nauta. The vessel features floor-to-ceiling windows on all 16 guest suites measuring 250 sq ft and furnished with inviting hardwood interiors, high thread count sheets, AC and private bathrooms. The second deck suites cost a little more, but you'll benefit from a more expansive river views, and a quieter cruise experience further from launch area for the excursion skiffs (located on first deck). The second deck also houses the boutique and dining room.

A fully air-conditioned top deck lounge with a contemporary observation indoor lounge & bar; an exercise room with elliptical, treadmill, and spinning machines; a massage room, outdoor lounge, and rooftop Jacuzzi plus redesigned excursion skiffs with larger seats. Celebrity chef Pedro Schiaffino's fine dining menus highlight regional dishes and local ingredients enjoyed onboard. The 26 crew-member vessel including a paramedic and 4 bilingual naturalist guides, will run 8 and 5-day cruise itinerary departures to provide more options for travelers. The M/V Aria will venture to a diversity of areas of the Pacaya-Samiria Reserve offering exceptional wildlife viewing capabilities.

**Note:** due to the remoteness of the Peruvian Amazon, there is no mobile and wifi coverage on the ship once away from Iquitos. For emergency contact with family or work back home, Aria has a satellite phone for an extra charge paid onboard.

### EXCURSION BOATS DURING YOUR VOYAGE:

Excursions during the Amazon Voyage are aboard four 8-passenger open-air, comfortable skiffs with padded seats along each side and spacious standing room, giving passengers ample room for wildlife viewing and photography. These stable boats, equipped with life preservers and constant radio communication with the M/V Aria, are powered by low-emission four-stroke outboard motors and driven by an experienced captain; naturalists/guides accompany each excursion. Drinks and snacks are provided, as are packed lunches and breakfasts for some of the daily expeditions. Passengers enter the skiffs from a stable platform on the sides of the riverboat.

### OPTIONAL CUSCO/MACHU PICCHU EXTENSION (4 days / 3 nights):

Travelers with extra time may want to add a visit one of the new "Seven Wonders of the World," Machu Picchu. This extension can follow the Amazon cruise (as outlined below) or it can also be added before the cruise.

#### DAY 09 (SAT): IQUITOS / LIMA

Arrive in Lima from Iquitos and check-in to the [Wyndham Costa del Sol Hotel](#) near the International Terminal.  
(B,L)

## Peru: Amazon Cruise

### DAY 10 (SUN): LIMA / CUSCO

Assistance is provided checking in this morning for the spectacular flight over the Andes to Cusco (11,150'), the former capital of the Incan Empire. You are met at the airport and transferred to the historic and boutique-style [Aranwa Hotel](#) near the main plaza which provides the added benefit of oxygenated rooms, with the rest of the morning at leisure for acclimatization. This afternoon you will enjoy a guided orientation tour, by foot and van, of the city's colonial and Incan sites, including the nearby ruins of **Sacsayhuaman** and Tambo Machay. Dinner is on your own.

(B)

### DAY 11 (MON): MACHU PICCHU

After an early breakfast, transfer to the station, board the Vistadome train for a 3.5-hour ride to the village of Machu Picchu (formerly Aguas Calientes) located below the famous *Lost City of the Incas*. Check-in to the charming [Inkaterra Machu Picchu Hotel](#) in town before joining your guide for a private tour of **Machu Picchu's** Sun Temple, Royal Tomb, the ceremonial water fountains and baths, and the Sacred Plaza. Dinner is at included the hotel. (B,L,D)

### DAY 12 (TUE): MACHU PICCHU / CUSCO

The day is available for further personal guided explorations of this magnificent citadel. There are several optional hikes available for more active group members. **Huchuy Picchu Mountain**, a gradual uphill hike on a newly cleared trail about 30 min to a lookout point. 1.5 hours climb along a very steep, narrow and exposed trail ends at **Huayna Picchu**, or Young Peak (8,836'), providing an excellent panoramic view of the sanctuary. Another 1.5 hour up and downhill hike ends at the **Temple of the Moon**; or an easy 30-minute walk will take you to the **Inca Drawbridge**. As the day is flexible, those who prefer can relax or explore their favorite spots at their own pace. After lunch at the Sumaq Hotel restaurant, you will catch the early afternoon train for the 1.5-hour scenic return to Ollantaytambo. You're met upon arrival and transferred by private vehicle to Cusco and the [Aranwa Hotel](#). Dinner is on your own.

(B,L)

### DAY 13 (WED): CUSCO / LIMA

Return to the airport late-morning, fly to Lima, reception upon arrival by our guide and drive into the city. Private tour of colonial Lima and the renowned Larco Herrera Museum, featuring an extensive collection of Pre-Columbian artifacts. Lunch and dinner are on your own. Those leaving tonight will have a transfer to the airport included.

(B)

### DAY 14 (THU): USA

Arrive in the US this morning and make onward connections home.

<b>2024 EXTENSION LAND COST:</b>	2 participants:	from \$3,650 ppd
	3 participants:	from \$3,500 ppd
	4-6 participants:	from \$3,400 ppd
	Single Supplement:	from \$1,050

ppd =per person based on double occupancy

**NOTES ON EXTENSION SERVICES:** An additional \$500 per person deposit is required to reserve this extension. Services are similar for the main tour; first-class (4-5 star) accommodations as listed (or similar hotels), on a shared basis. All meals, transfers and tours as indicated conducted on a private basis by local English-speaking professional guides.

### OPTIONAL TRIP EXTENSIONS:

Travelers with additional vacation time may wish to extend their trip to Lake Titicaca, Northern Peru, Arequipa & Colca Canyon, the Paracas Reserve, Nazca Lines or the Galápagos Islands. Your Amazon Cruise will combine perfectly with our *World of the Incas* tour. The cruise can also be used as a component of a customized adventure, which can be designed and quoted separately. **All extensions require a minimum of 2 participants** and are subject to space availability. To view all the extensions on our website, click on '[Extend Your Trip](#)'.

**WEATHER:** The M/V Aria cruises the Amazon every week of the year, giving adventurers the option of experiencing this captivating ecosystem during either the Dry Season (June-November) or the Flooded Season (December-May). Both seasons offer rich rewards, fabulous sites, amazing opportunities to view plant and animal life, along with hot weather and some rainy days. Our recommendation though, is to travel from April to December to avoid the heaviest rains from January through March. The Amazon basin receives an average of 12 feet of rain per year,

## Peru: Amazon Cruise

adding up to over 200 rainy days, which means there will be rain even in the dry season. Flooded season is slightly cooler (temperatures average in the 80's to 90's year-round, with nighttime lows in the 70's), but the main difference is that the river level is 23 feet higher. This means that most rivers, creeks and lakes are navigable, putting us closer to the jungle canopy where monkeys play and birds roost. The flip side is walking and hiking are more limited, and there will be more mosquitoes. The dry season is a little hotter (about 98°F) while still receiving some days of heavy rains. The river level is lower, giving more access to hiking trails with fewer mosquitoes, but some of the creeks and lakes visited during the flooded season are inaccessible.

**TRAVEL INSURANCE:** We strongly recommend purchasing coverage to protect your trip investment. Travel insurance is important in case of unexpected events prior to departure causing the need to cancel or change your dates. Weather, natural events, medical reason, quarantine, local strikes, personal injury/illness (for you, your traveling companion or family members at home), could require itinerary interruption or changes. Missed connections, delayed arrival, lost/delayed baggage or the need for medical attention or evacuation are also reasons why coverage is important. Southwind recommends **Travel Insured International** which offers coverage options at a good value. If you, your traveling companion or a family member has a pre-existing medical condition, you can still receive coverage if a recurrence of the condition forces you to cancel your trip, but you do need to purchase a plan **within 21 days of your deposit**. Southwind can provide eQuote for insurance to review upon receipt of your deposit and Trip Reservation eForm.

[Learn more about coverage offered by Travel Insured International](#)

**HOW TO SIGN UP:** Please complete Southwind's [Trip Reservation eForm](#). There are fields for up to 6 travelers per form with the same address. The deposit is **\$1,500 per person**, [please click here to pay your deposit](#) by any major credit card through our secure CardConnect system. In the total amount due box, enter your deposit amount (without a comma) based on the number of travelers in your party. If you prefer, you can also call us at 1-800-377-9463 to make payment arrangements by phone or send a check. You will receive confirmation of your deposit.

Due to the popularity of the Peruvian rainforest, we recommend making reservations at least 4-5 months in advance. Once your trip is guaranteed to operate, you will receive comprehensive pre-departure planning documents by email.

**Land Balance:** Final payment is due at 120 days by Visa, Mastercard, Discover, American Express or check. You will receive a trip invoice indicating your balance due. Provided services and space are available, reservations can be accepted up to 60 days before departure.

Cancellation Fees and other policies are outlined under the current [Terms & Conditions](#) on Southwind's website.

**We look forward to having you travel with us in Peru!**

**Southwind Adventures, Inc**

Your Latin America Travel Specialist since 1990  
Tel: 303-972-0701 or 800-377-9463 • [info@southwindadventures.com](mailto:info@southwindadventures.com)  
[www.southwindadventures.com](http://www.southwindadventures.com) • [Southwind Travel Blog](#) • [Southwind Destinations](#)

24-PAC-Aria.Version:Oct23