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Wonders of Peru 9 Days – FAQ

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

- Dry Season (May to September): The best time to visit Cusco and Machu Picchu is during the dry season, from May to September. Expect clear skies and minimal rainfall, perfect for trekking and exploring ruins. Daytime temperatures range from 15°C to 20°C (59°F to 68°F), while nighttime temperatures can drop to 0°C to 5°C (32°F to 41°F). This period is the most popular, so attractions will be busier.
- Shoulder Seasons (April and October): The shoulder seasons of April and October offer good weather with fewer tourists. Daytime temperatures range from 18°C to 22°C (64°F to 72°F), and nighttime temperatures from 4°C to 8°C (39°F to 46°F). These months provide a quieter experience while still enjoying favorable weather for outdoor activities.
- Wet Season (November to March): The wet season, from November to March, sees more frequent rain and lush green landscapes. Daytime temperatures range from 15°C to 22°C (59°F to 72°F), and nighttime temperatures range from 6°C to 10°C (43°F to 50°F). This period offers a more serene experience with fewer tourists, despite some trails being muddy and less accessible.

2. 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 the intra flights between Lima and Cusco with airport transfers.
- "Package" Price: This option includes the airfare from your departure city to Lima and intra flights between Lima and Cusco. It also includes all transfers between the airport and the hotel.

3. How much is the deposit?

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

4. 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 \$1,000 \$1,500 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.

5. Why is a second payment required?

If you choose the package with airfare, a second payment of \$1,000 - \$1,500 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.

6. 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.

7. 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. With Air Transat, you might find routes connecting through Montreal. Copa Airlines usually stopover in Panama City. 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.

8. 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, nonchangeable, 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.

9. 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 USD 250 or more for both international and internal flights.

10. 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.

11. 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.

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

All transportation, entrance fees, sightseeing, an English-speaking tour guide*, and meals (where indicated) are included in the half-day or full-day tour options. *Except the Lima Museo Larco Tour

13. 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.

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

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

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

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

16. 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.

17. 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, and Puno at 3,800m. To mitigate symptoms, stay hydrated, avoid alcohol and coffee, drink coca tea, walk slowly, and consider carrying a small oxygen canister. Altitude sickness medication is available in Canada, the US, and in Peru.

18. 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 some USD cash for convenience.

19. 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.

20. 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.

21. 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 10-14 days before departure. We highly recommend saving these numbers on your phone for easy access if needed.

22. 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.

23. What is the cancellation policy?

Please refer to our booking terms and conditions here: TripOppo Cancellation Policy

24. Do you offer travel insurance?

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

25. 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.