To Cusco Without the Lake

www.peruhop.com/passes/to-cusco-without-the-_lake/

Min. time needed: **5 days**
Start / End Point: **Start Lima / End Cusco**

DAY 1

Lima to Paracas

6:30am - 7:00am

Depart Lima - We pick up directly from hostels and hotels for safety and comfort. If staying in an Airbnb just email us. Your booking confirmation (ticket) will show you your exact pick-up time (depends on where you are staying!)

8:45am - 9:15am

We stop for a unique breakfast, straight from the bread ovens of Mirasur – Enjoy some of the freshest baked bread in Peru!

11:30am (INCLUDED)

Secret Slave Tunnels Tour - EXCLUSIVE guided tour of underground secret slave tunnels in Chincha. 17km of tunnels used to traffic slaves in 17th Century.

1:30pm

Arrive Paracas - A beautiful small fishing town by the sea.

3:30pm - 6:30pm (OPTIONAL)

Golden Shadows Trek: Tour to the heart of the Paracas National Reserve to experience an unforgettable sunset at Kori-Apu, the Golden mountain (la montaña dorada). As the sun sets, the rocks along the cliffs light up a golden color, and where even the shadows are aglow, lending to the name of the tour. Your guide can help you book this optional extra or book in advance to secure a spot. For more info click here.

DAY 2

Paracas to Huacachina

7:15am

We start our day! Meeting point at Hotel Residencial Los Frayles.

7:30am - 9:30am (OPTIONAL)

Ballestas Islands: 2 hour boat tour of the islands. The Ballestas are a smaller version of the Galapagos, and just as great. You'll see sea lions, penguins and lots of birds all in their natural habitat. If you're lucky, you may even see a dolphin or three!

10:00am (INCLUDED)

Paracas National Reserve: Guided bus tour of one of South America's biggest protected desert reserves. Stunning Pacific coastline where desert meets ocean. Meeting point at Hotel Residencial Los Frayles.

12:00pm

Depart Paracas – Meeting point at Hotel Residencial Los Frayles. Be ready at 11:45AM for departure and bring all your luggage

1:30pm (INCLUDED)

Pisco Vineyard Tour: Try lots of free samples of Pisco, the national drink of Peru and learn all about how it is made, from grape to bottle!

3:15pm

Arrive in Huacachina – The only desert oasis in South America.

4:00pm - 6:00pm

Dunebuggy/Sandboarding Tour: 2 hours full of adrenaline. Ride the dune buggies up and sandboard down the biggest dunes in South America. A once in a lifetime experience in the only natural desert oasis in South America.

DAY 3

Huacachina to Nazca to Arequipa

2:00pm

Depart Huacachin: Meeting point is Wild Rover Hostel – *Please arrive 15 minutes before the bus departs and be sure to bring all your luggage to the bus*

4:30pm (INCLUDED)

Nazca Lines Viewing Tower: See 3 of the mysterious and world-famous Nazca Lines for free!

5:30pm

Arrive Nazca - Dinner snack stop in Nazca.

6:00pm

Depart Nazca- snuggle up with our thick blankets as you prepare for a night on our luxury bus, a rite of passage for all travelers of Peru!

Nazca Lines Flight

If you are interested in doing a world famous Nazca Lines Flight (highly recommended) to see the incredible lines, then it is possible to do the flight and take the bus to Arequipa later that evening. A special shuttle service operates from Huacachina to Nazca that costs 60 soles (around $16), and allows for bag storage too. All of this can be organized with your guide on the bus as you arrive to Huacachina.

DAY 4

Arrive to Arequipa

5:40am

Arrive in Arequipa – Arguably Peru's most beautiful city, the "Ciudad Blanca" to locals, or the White City!

What to do

Visit the famous monastery of Saint Catalina, spend some time in the second deepest canyon in the world, the Colca Canyon, indulge in the delectable cuisine of this region, or simply join a free walking tour of this beautiful city!

Traveler tip

Arequipa is a big city with plenty to do so if you are looking to extend your travels, we recommend you add a few days here!

DAY 5

Arequipa (Colca Canyon)

3:00am - 5:30pm (OPTIONAL)

Full Day Colca Canyon Tour: The second deepest Canyon in the world.

5:30pm

Return to Arequipa.

Note

Many travelers find that starting a 2 Day trek or tour after an overnight bus is very tiring. If you are short on time the 1-day tour option might be best for you. To do a Colca Canyon Trek requires a minimum of 3-4 days in Arequipa (you will need at least 1 day to acclimatize properly) and will depend on the option you choose (2 Day/1 Night Trek or 3 Days/2 Nights).

DAY 6

Arequipa to Cusco

5:45am

Depart Arequipa – we pick you up from hotels and hostels located in the central city zone. Be ready for pick up 20 minutes before your scheduled departure!

9:30am (INCLUDED)

Lagunillas Mirador Viewpoint stop

2:00pm

Lunch stop at Marangani - Affordable lunch at a local restaurant in this non-touristy town

6:30pm

Arrive to Cusco: Hotel/hostel drop-off

What to do

Cusco is home to the world-famous Machu Picchu citadel, but Machu Picchu is not the only thing that will captivate you. Spend time scaling the Rainbow Mountain, or lose yourself in history in the Sacsayhuaman fortress. There are thousands of incredible things to do here. For any planned tours, we recommend booking via www.findlocaltrips.com.