

Destination Fact Sheet: Peru

Worldwide region:	South America
Capital City:	Lima (GMT - 5hrs)
Environment:	Mountains, coastal desert, rainforest
When to go:	April - Oct
Itineraries:	Explorer, Expedition
Highlights:	Andes Mountains, Cusco, Machu Picchu, Lake Titicaca, coastal desert
Essentially:	A remarkable country offering spectacular mountain scenery, ancient cultures and exciting activities.



About the country

Peru has some of the most varied and spectacular scenery on offer in South America and encompasses broad geographical variations. It can be divided into three regions; the arid coastal desert to the west, the lush Amazonian rainforest to the east and the high Andes mountain range, forming the very back bone of the country.

A huge array of options are on offer for adventurous groups wishing to experience not only unforgettable trekking but also an insight into ancient customs and cultures. You can choose to visit the Colca Canyon, twice as deep as America's 'Grand Canyon' and the mysterious Nazca Lines, whose origins still remain unknown. However, it is the most famous lost city of them all, the Inca enclave of Machu Picchu, that is the true pinnacle of any trip to Peru.

Explorer Programmes

Begin your journey in the former Inca capital of Cusco and visit the surrounding sites of Pisac and Sacsaywaman. Continue on and tread a former Inca pilgrimage route as you trek along the steep sides of the Sacred Valley to reach the famous citadel of Machu Picchu. Having explored the Inca fortress, take one of the most impressive train journeys in the world to reach Puno, from where you can explore the world's highest navigable lake and the communities who still live upon its waters.

Expedition Programmes

Visit the beautiful city of Arequipa, where the architecture is an ever-present reminder of Peru's colonial past. From here continue your journey into the Inca heartland by visiting the city of Cusco and the awe-inspiring ruins of Machu Picchu. Towards the end of your expedition travel north to the city of Huaraz and complete a multi-day trek in the Cordillera Blanca mountain range, home to the highest peak in the country as well as 'Alpamayo', declared "the most beautiful mountain in the world" by UNESCO.

In summary

Peru is an adventurous and challenging destination for school groups and ideal for those who wish to combine cultural experiences and physical challenges. Groups should be experienced with outdoor adventures and must undergo a fitness programme in order to physically prepare for the itinerary.



To discuss the variety of options for tailor making a trip to Peru for your group, please telephone us on **0845 634 4670 or visit our website at **www.schoolsworldwide.co.uk****