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**ITINERARY**  
**PERU**  
**BOLIVIA**



# PERU & BOLIVIA HIGHLIGHTS

16 DAY SOLO TOUR: MARCH APRIL 2020

[www.twosacrowd.com.au](http://www.twosacrowd.com.au)

Most people who return from South America bring back tales of wonder, tradition, diverse culture, wild landscapes and life changing experiences.

If you're looking for an adventure rich in ancient history, cultural diversity and spectacular scenery, then why not join us on our 16 day solos tour to discover the fascinating countries of Peru and Bolivia. Our adventure begins in Peru, where we wander through striking cities, bustling markets and take on the magnificent Amazon jungle and Lake Titicaca. You'll also enjoy making the pilgrimage by train to the fascinating Inca citadel of Machu Picchu. Next we will cross the border to Bolivia and immerse ourselves in to the colourful city of La Paz. That's 16 days discovering two incredible destinations full of bucket-list items! And if you fancy even more, then why not join our 16 day solos tour through Chile, Argentina and Brazil- which will offer you the opportunity to experience a completely contrasting, but equally magical, South American experience.

**Will you join us?**



**Day 1 - Wednesday 25th March 2020****LIMA**

On arrival at Lima's airport you will be transferred to your hotel in the well-known coastal suburb of Miraflores. At 2pm this afternoon we will meet our fellow travellers, Two's a Crowd Tour Host and local guide for a tour briefing. Following this, we will head out on a walking tour of downtown Lima, including the city's historical centre. Flanked by streets of ornate mansions, palaces and churches, Plaza Mayor is the best place to start our exploration of Lima. Take a walk through the old streets to get a feel for colonial life. On one side of the plaza is the Cathedral of Lima, which houses the remains of Lima's founder, Francisco Pizarro. Visit the nearby San Francisco Monastery, with its catacombs containing some 70,000 human remains. Continue onto the Central market where you'll take a walking tour. The market has a huge variety of fresh produce on offer, including fruits, vegetables and even guinea pigs. You'll also have the opportunity to try some local Peruvian fruits and street food. Next head away from the tourist trail and visit 'Alameda de Chabuca Granda' an area really only known to locals, it is a place where people go as a treat to enjoy a variety local street food and authentic Peruvian desserts such as 'Mazamorra Morada' a sweet porridge made from purple corn or 'Picarones' Peruvian donuts made from local squash called Macre and sweet potatoes served with a sweet syrup, these are a must try whilst in Peru! The tour will finish in Lima main square. You may choose to stay in Down Town for dinner or take the included transfer back to Miraflores.

- **Accommodation: Your own standard room at 'Antigua Miraflores Hotel,' Lima**

**Day 2 - Thursday 26th March 2020****LIMA TO PUERTO MALDONADO (AMAZON JUNGLE)  
(B,L,D)**

Early this morning we will be transferred to the airport to take our flight to the Amazon Jungle, Puerto Maldonado. Upon arrival, we will be met at the airport and will be transferred to our local office located just 5 minutes away. Here we will leave most of our luggage in a safe storage, and continue travelling with a small pack with just the necessary items for our next two nights in the jungle. Next we continue our journey (by vehicle) for 45 minutes to the indigenous community of Infierno, before taking a motor boat along the warm and calm waters of the Tambopata River. The estimated travel time is roughly 30 minutes, during which you will enjoy a delicious lunch typical of the Peruvian jungle. After this relaxing boat ride we arrive at the jungle lodge. As our first activity, a member of the community will explain how the old 'Ese Eja' (bow and arrow) is used for hunting in the local area. Following dinner you will have the chance to head out on a caiman (alligator) search, as we return to the river with flashlights in search of the red reflection of their eyes lurking along the river bank. With luck, you will have the opportunity to see some other nocturnal animals as well. It is a magical feeling to witness the jungle wilderness in the evening.

- **Accommodation: Your own standard room at 'Nape Lodge' Puerto Maldonado**



**Day 3 - Friday 27th March 2020**  
**PUERTO MALDONADO (AMAZON JUNGLE)**  
**(B,L,D)**

In the morning, we will travel by boat (30 minutes) and then walk (25 minutes) until we've reached the water's edge of the lake adjacent to the Tambopata reserve. Upon arrival we will have an amazing view of the lake surrounded by beautiful 'aguaje' palms. You will be able to find and see a variety of jungle fauna, such as hoatzin, monkeys, macaw, black caiman, flying parrot, and if we are lucky we will see a family of giant river otters (*pteronoura brasilienses*), an endangered species. You will also have the opportunity to pass a parrot feeding ground, here the macaws and other species of birds come every morning to feed on the salt in the clay. The macaws begin by ceremoniously circling the cliff area. The birds consume the salt for 20 minutes and they depart. It is believed that the salt from the clay detoxifies the fruit diet of the birds. Next, you will return to the lodge to enjoy a delicious lunch. Next we head to the medicinal garden located very close to the lodge. Here we will meet the shaman of the community who will talk to the group about medicinal plants: ayahuasca, chacruna, para para, chuchuhuasi, uia de gato, ajosacha, etc. Which are used and prepared by villagers to treat illnesses, such as: rheumatism, colds, diabetes, fever, gastro intestinal problems, coughs, anemia, etc. Finishing the journey, we will have the opportunity to go to the facility where all medicines are prepared. Tonight, after dinner, we will take a night walk on one of the lodge's trails searching for insects, amphibians, tarantulas, bats, nocturnal birds and mammals, all while listening to different animal sounds. Hopefully we will see the armadillo, one of the nocturnal mammals of the jungle.

- **Accommodation: Your own standard room at 'Nape Lodge', Puerto Maldonado**

**Day 4 - Saturday 28th March 2020**  
**PUERTO MALDONADO (AMAZON JUNGLE) TO**  
**CUSCO (B)**

After our breakfast buffet, we take a ride back to Puerto Maldonado by outboard motorized canoe. We collect our stored luggage and will then be transferred to the airport in time for our flight to Cusco. On arrival (approx. 1.30pm), you will be transferred to the hotel. We will take the day slowly as we acclimatize to the new altitude (3,450 meters above sea level). The city itself is the continent's oldest continuously inhabited city and was the home of the Incas for two centuries before the Spanish built their first capital here. Today Cusco is a fascinating combination of both cultures. Incabuilt walls line the central streets and many of the elegant colonial buildings are built on or around Inca foundations. This is a city steeped in history, tradition and legend and is a perfect base for explorations into the Inca world or to enjoy a range of outdoor activities. In the afternoon, our leader will take us on a walking tour including a visit to the Plaza de Armas. This tour will also include a visit to the Cusco Cathedral - a UNESCO World Heritage Site, where you will be shown around by a specialist guide.

- **Accommodation: Your own standard room at 'San Agustin Plaza Hotel,' Cusco**





### Day 5 - Sunday 29th March 2020

#### CUSCO (B)

Your local guide will take you on a walking tour of Cuzco today. Visit the Coricancha Temple for a tour with a local guide. Once plated in thick gold, the Spanish built a Dominican church atop its walls. Soon after head to the San Pedro market, where you can practice your bargaining skills and take some colourful pictures. You will also various find vegetables, meats, local cheeses (which you should certainly try), local chocolates, herbal medicines and many local handicrafts. It's a great place to purchase some souvenirs. The market is also a place where many locals go to eat 'mystery soups'. Some may be just chicken; however, the most popular amongst the locals are usually the more unusual ones like frog soups or soups that contains nose to tail of various animals. The tour will also stop at the Plaza de Armas in the heart of the city. Here you will again see the main cathedral (this time from the front only), built on top of an Incan palace and one of the city's greatest repositories of art.

- **Accommodation:** Your own standard room at 'San Agustin Plaza Hotel,' Cusco

### Day 6 - Monday 30th March 2020

#### CUSCO - SACRED VALLEY- OLLANTAYTAMBO (B,L)

This morning travel by private bus for around two hours through the Sacred Valley, on the outskirts of Cusco. Known as Wilcamayo by the Incas, this valley was greatly treasured because of its climate, fertile land and the presence of the Urubamba (Sacred) River. Long the main source of food for the high Andes, maize crops can be seen surrounding the river and covering the terraces carved high into the valley walls. You will visit the fortress of Sacsayhuaman where massive stone blocks that form the walls of this site give you an impressive picture of how greatly developed Inca engineering was. Looking over the city from its hilltop position, the fortress is the ultimate example of the Inca's military strength. En route to Ollantaytambo you will visit multiple workshops in the Chichubamba community to gain a greater insight into the local lifestyle with an included lunch and visit to some local workshops. After the community visit, we will continue on to Ollantaytambo. Ollantaytambo was built over an ancient Inca town, the ruins of the royal estate of Emperor Pachacuti. This is one of the few places where the Incas defeated the Spanish. It's a magnificent example of Inca urban planning and the perfect warm up for Machu Picchu. Ollantaytambo's archaeological site is located to the east of the Plaza de Armas. The upper terraces of this site offer great photo opportunities of the squared grid town below. Today you'll see lots of evidence of the Incas' engineering skills – in the ruins of ancient aqueducts, irrigation canals, dams on the Urubamba River, imposing sets of terraces and centres of worship dedicated to Pachamama (Mother Earth). In the late afternoon we head to the hotel in Ollantaytambo and settle in for night.

- **Accommodation:** Your own standard room at 'Xima Cusco Hotel', Ollantaytambo

**Day 7 - Tuesday 31st March 2020**  
**OLLANTAYTAMBO - AGUAS CALIENTES -**  
**MACHU PICCHU - AGUAS CALIENTES (B)**

Nestled in the cloud forest at the foot of Machu Picchu, your destination today is Aguas Calientes.

We will depart the hotel just after 7am and travel by train for around 90 minutes through the winding Urubamba Valley to reach the town.

From here take a 30-minute bus up the winding road to Machu Picchu where you will be joined by a guide who will take you through the ruins and tell you stories of its history and the ancestral people of the region. Looking at Machu Picchu for the first time, as it sits against a backdrop of forested mountains, is a truly breathtaking experience. No matter how many photos you've seen, it is hard to prepare for its awesome beauty.

The true purpose behind Machu Picchu may always be a mystery, since no historical records of the complex exist. In fact, none were made in the first place, since the Incas had no written language.

Some historians have argued it was a place of spiritual worship; others, a military stronghold, and some even think it was a prison. Most archaeologists, however, believe it to be the 15th-century headquarters of 'he who shook the earth', Emperor Pachacuti.

You will have a guided visit (approximately 1.5-2 hours), then free time to wander around.

- **Accommodation: Your own superior room at 'Hatun Inti Classic,' Aguas Calientes**

**Day 8 - Wednesday 1st April 2020**  
**MACHU PICCHU TO CUSCO (B)**

At 5:30 am this morning, take the bus back up the winding road to Machu Picchu. On our second visit to these incredible Inca ruins we will have free time to explore and take any photos we may have missed yesterday. Why not take a walk up to the iconic sun gate and take that postcard picture! Further explore more of the extraordinary architecture of the many temples, palaces and living quarters, where the mortar-free design is particularly earthquake resistant and the stones are so precisely cut that to this day not even a knife fits between them. Before midday WE take the bus back down to Aguas Calientes. Enjoy some lunch in town and perhaps have head to the local artisanal market to pick up some souvenirs. Later take an afternoon train to Ollantaytambo arriving late afternoon. From Ollantaytambo, take a private transfer back to Cusco arriving around 7 pm, just in time for dinner.

- **Accommodation: Your own standard room at 'San Agustin Plaza Hotel,' Cusco**

**MACHU PICCHU**

*According to Machu Picchu visiting regulations, all visitors must follow a pre-determined route within the site. This route must be followed in one direction only and once the guided visit commences exiting and re-entering the site is not permitted. Once the guided visit concludes, visitors must exit the site and personal exploration of Machu Picchu is not permitted. The first bus from Aguas Calientes to Machu Picchu departs at 5.30 am. The estimated arrival time is between 6- 6.30 am The sun rises at Machu Picchu at approximately 5.30 am, therefore it's not possible to be there in time for sunrise.*



### Day 9 - Thursday 2nd April 2020 CUSCO (B)

Today will be free for you to continue exploring Cusco at your own pace. Today enjoy free time to relax, shop or explore more of Cusco's sights. Perhaps head to a cafe on the Plaza de Armas. There are many optional activities available in Cusco, please speak with your tour leader if you wish to book any of these in. You can also use your ticket called "Boleto Turistico" that was included on your city tour program. Some of these places are visited during your city tour.

However on your free time in Cusco today you will be able to use this Boleto Turistico to visit the rest of the museums, churches and sites. On the backside of the ticket you will find information about opening and closing times and a map of central Cusco. Also we recommend you visit the traditional and picturesque neighborhood of San Blas.

To get to this place you have to take a short but increasingly steep walk from the Plaza de Armas. Here, you can find art studios, artisan workshops, many of the best bars and restaurants. It's a great area to wander around!

- **Accommodation: Your own standard room at 'San Agustin Plaza Hotel,' Cusco**

### Day 10 - Friday 3rd April 2020 CUSCO TO PUNO (B)

Today we will have an early breakfast and depart the hotel just after 7am. We will travel by private coach for approx. 7.5 hours to the tiny but unique town of Puno. This direct tourist service will take you on decent roads through spectacular mountain scenery. You will also drive through the large sprawling town of Juliaca on your way to Puno, which is a colourful and lively place renowned for its traditional street dancing, often performed in celebration of Catholic festive days.

We arrive in Puno at around 3.30pm. Puno located on the shores of Lake Titicaca, a melting pot of Aymara and Quechuan Indian culture where traditional Andean customs are still strongly represented. The town is known as the folklore capital of Peru and is famous for its traditional dances.

Many festivals are celebrated here, especially the Virgen de la Candelaria, so if you're lucky your visit might coincide with one of the colourful evening parades, when the streets fill with costumed dancers and musicians. Head to the hotel in Puno and settle in. Shortly after your leader will take you on an orientation walk of Puno town.

This evening perhaps head out for dinner with the group, your leader will be able to recommend some great places to eat.

- **Accommodation: Your own standard room at 'Hacienda Puno Hotel,' Puno**



### Day 11 - Saturday 4th April 2020 LAKE TITICACA - SUASI ISLAND (B, L, D)

This morning, we leave the hotel just before 7 am and set off to explore Lake Titicaca. Be enchanted by the striking scenery and unique cultures on a cruise around Lake Titicaca today. As Lake Titicaca is the highest navigable lake in the world, the sun can be extremely strong, so make sure you wear a hat and sunscreen, even on cloudy days. Stop by the floating Uros Islands. The Uros people constructed these islands to isolate themselves from rival tribes in ancient times. They are built completely from multiple layers of totora reeds, which grow in the shallows of the lake. Next call into Taquile Island for some woollen handicrafts. On the island, knitting is strictly a male domain, while women do the spinning. At approximately 1 pm, retire to the private island of Suasi where you'll spend the next two nights. This afternoon you may want to venture out on a walk around the Island or why not head to the spa and book in a massage. Tonight, enjoy an included dinner at the lodge.

#### Special Information/ Luggage for the next 2 days:

Due to a luggage restrictions on the boat you will be required to pack all necessary items for the next 2 days into a smaller bag. The remainder of your luggage will be stored securely in the Puno hotel.

- **Accommodation: Your own standard room at 'Suasi Ecolodge'**

### Day 12 - Sunday 5th April 2020 SUASI ISLAND (B,L,D)

This morning you will visit the cultural museum on the island. Here you will find maps, pictures of the Lake, and books about history of the lake and its communities. There are handicrafts and fabrics from the different groups that developed around the Lake, types of Andean grains like quinoa, and a chance to learn about the painting process of wool. An easy late-afternoon walk (approximately 30 minutes) will take you to a nice spot to witness an unforgettable sunset over the waters of Lake Titicaca. Enjoy a private picnic with drinks; a unique moment to soak in the beautiful landscape, appreciate the serenity, and if the clouds behave, watch the sun go down. Tonight, enjoy your final (included) dinner at Suasi Lodge.

- **Accommodation: Your own standard room at 'Suasi Ecolodge'**

### Day 13 - Monday 6th April 2020 PUNO (B)

Just before 1 pm travel back across the lake to Puno. The boat journey back to Puno is about 1 hour and 45 minutes. We will then have the remainder of the day to relax at leisure, or explore Puno further.

- **Accommodation: Your own standard room at 'Hacienda Puno Hotel,' Puno**





### Day 14 - Tuesday 7th 2020

#### PUNO- LA PAZ (B)

Today, you will travel to Desaguadero, where you'll cross the border into Bolivia. We will need to disembark the bus to pass through immigration. We will then continue on our journey. On our way to La Paz, we will stop at Tiahuanaco for a guided visit. The Tiahuanaco archaeological site was where the Incas learned about building systems and agricultural practices. This was the base of a great civilization that began around 500 BC before mysteriously 'disappearing' around 1200 AD. It is believed that the ceremonial complex date back to the 8th century AD and was once at the center of a powerful and self-sustaining empire based in the southern Central Andes. The sprawling ruins comprise of temples, courtyards, terraced pyramids, monolithic stone statues and gateways. The most famous structure is the Puerta Del Sol (Gateway of the Sun). From the ruins it is less than a two-hour drive to La Paz, where you'll spend the night. You will enjoy spectacular views of the city on your approach, due to its unique location in the middle of a vast volcanic crater that resembles a bowl.

- **Accommodation:** Your own standard room at 'Rosario de la Paz Hotel,' La Paz

### Day 15 - Wednesday 8th April 2020

#### La Paz (B)

At around 3,600 meters above sea level, La Paz feels like the top of the world. Although Sucre is the official capital of Bolivia, La Paz is the center of commerce, finance and industry. Despite the abundance of colonial architecture, La Paz's indigenous roots run deep, and the atmosphere in the marketfilled streets is filled with tradition. This morning you will head out on a half day city tour. You will visit Moon Valley, known to the locals at Valley de la Luna, which is a maze of canyons and giant spires. Following this head back to La Paz and delve into the markets, where witches in dark hats sell dried llama fetuses for good luck. You have to see it to believe it! Your city tour will finish with a ride up the cable car to view the city from above. Tonight we enjoy a farewell group dinner and local Bolivian delicacies at a local restaurant.

- **Accommodation:** Your own standard room at 'Rosario de la Paz Hotel,' La Paz

### Day 16 - Thursday 9th April 2020

#### LA PAZ DEPARTURE (B)

After breakfast our tour ends as you transfer to the airport for you flight home or onwards to further adventures! Alternately we can organise for you to stay a few extra nights in La Paz.

**TOUR PRICE A\$7,596 PLUS INTERNATIONAL AIRFARES AND TAXES**

**TOUR DATES: 25TH MARCH - 9TH APRIL**

### Tour Inclusions:

- Two's a Crowd tour host from Australia.
- English speaking tour leader throughout Peru and Bolivia.
- Local english speaking tour guides.
- All transport, sightseeing and excursions as per the itinerary.
- 15 nights accommodation in your own room — always!
- Meals as per itinerary: B = breakfast, L = lunch, D = dinner.
- Internal flights and taxes (economy class) Lima - Puerto Maldonado - Cuzco.
- Group Airport Arrival and departure transfers.
- Full Boleto Turistico Pass, which gives you access to 16 archaeological sites in/around Cusco (Transport & guides are not included)
- Standard CHI Travel Insurance Policy. Additional premium may be payable if over 69 years, have an existing medial condition or wish to extend your travelling dates (underwritten by Allianz).

### Tour Exclusions:

- All international airfares and taxes.
- Visas if required.
- Meals, drinks and services not mentioned in the itinerary.
- Tips for leaders, guide and driver (at your discretion).
- Expenditure of personal nature, including phone calls, laundry and souvenirs.



## NEED MORE INFORMATION? CONTACT THE TEAM:

☎ **Phone: 1300 55 45 01 (AUS) or 0800 895 145 (NZ)** ✉ **Email: team@twosacrowd.com.au**

**ABOUT TWO'S A CROWD:** We are an award winning tour company exclusively dedicated to the needs of solo travellers. At Two's a Crowd, single and solo travellers have access to fantastic itineraries at great prices without ever feeling like a third wheel to someone else's private getaway. Our travellers enjoy the best of both worlds: private time, personalised attention, low single supplements, as well as the camaraderie of like-minded travellers. For your peace of mind we are ATAS accredited (No A13850).

Our commitment is to make solo travel more enjoyable and affordable.

Terms & Conditions: • Prices are per person and based on sole use rooms throughout • Pricing correct at March 2019 and is subject to change until paid in full.

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