

## Absolute Peru & Galápagos Central Islands - SPH07MB

27 days: Lima to Quito

### What's Included

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- Your G for Good Moment: Ccaccacollo Community and Women's Weaving Co-op visit, Ccaccacollo
- Your G for Good Moment: Parwa Community Restaurant the Sacred Valley, Lamay
- Your G for Good Moment: Handmade Biodegradable Soap Products
- Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your CEO and Group
- Your Foodie Moment: Huacachina Winery Visit, Huacachina
- Your Local Living Moment: Lake Titicaca Homestay, Lake Titicaca
- Your Discover Moment: Cusco
- Cruise the Galápagos Islands aboard the Xavier (4 nts)
- Incredible wildlife encounters
- Daily opportunities for swimming and snorkelling
- Snorkelling equipment and wetsuits in the Galápagos
- Guided tour of Nazca desert cemetery and potter's studio
- Guided tour of Colca Canyon
- Guided tour of Taquile and Uros Islands on Lake Titicaca
- Sacred Valley guided tour
- Pottery making demonstration
- Inca Trail hike with local guide, cook, and porters (4-days)
- Guided tour of Machu Picchu
- Excursion to G Adventures' exclusive Amazon lodge (3-days)
- Internal flights
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and G Adventures. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

**VALIDITY:** Valid for all trips departing January 1st, 2018 and onwards

### Itinerary

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**NOTE:** Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only. Travellers may login to the G Adventures App to view accommodations specific to their departure.

#### Inca Trail

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##### Day 1 Lima

Arrive at any time.

If you booked the Lima Cooking Class it does not include extra time in Lima and we highly recommend booking pre-trip accommodation. You will be picked up from your hotel at approx 10:00 (10:30 from Aug-Dec) and taken to a local market and restaurant to prepare and enjoy a traditional Peruvian meal. You will return back to your hotel around 13:00.

Please note that hot water shortages and power outages can be fairly common in Peru (even in upgraded hotels and private homes). We appreciate your patience and understanding that these occurrences are outside of our control.

**Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your CEO and Group**

Your opportunity to meet your CEO and fellow travellers, and learn more about your tour. Opt to join the group for a local meal afterwards. Don't forget to see the notice in the lobby (or ask reception) for the official time and place to meet up with the group.

### **Optional Activities - Day 1**

#### **Lima Cooking Class (4hrs)**

Lima

Get a taste of Peruvian cuisine, visit local markets, sample exotic fruit, select fresh ingredients, and try your hand at preparing unique Peruvian dishes influenced by China, Italy, West Africa, and Japan.

### **Day 2 Lima/Paracas**

Enjoy a free morning in Lima before travelling by bus to Paracas.

Take the morning to explore more of Lima before journeying down the coast to Paracas. Walk the town's lively peatonal (pedestrian avenue) and find a café to sample some Peruvian food, such as ceviche or papa a la huancaína (potatoes with a chili cheese sauce).

Try your first Pisco sour while staying in Pisco's neighbour of Paracas.

#### **Free Time**

Lima Morning

There's not a lot of time to explore this morning as the bus to the station picks up around midday.

#### **Local Bus**

Lima – Pisco 4h Afternoon 250km

Climb aboard, grab a seat, and enjoy the ride.

#### **Minibus**

Pisco – Paracas 30m

It's bigger than a van, smaller than a bus, and just the right size for adventure.

### **Meals included: Breakfast**

### **Day 3 Paracas/Nazca**

Optional visit to Ballestas Islands before travelling to Nazca. En route, stop at a winery and at the Oasis of Huacachina.

There is time in the morning for an optional excursion to the popular Ballestas Islands, an excellent chance to view a lively sea lion colony, pelicans, penguins, and other varieties of birdlife. Pre-book by adding the Ballestas Islands Wildlife Tour on the checkout page or ask your GCO or travel agent for assistance.

Back on land, catch a bus south to Nazca. On the way, pass by the pleasant colonial town of Ica.

Ica enjoys a dry, sunny climate year-round and is known for its huge sand dunes. Located around the nearby oasis of Huacachina, the dunes are perfect subjects for photography and for a favourite local past time: sandboarding. Apart from the dunes, Ica is famous for its wines and there are several wineries and distilleries in the area.

#### **Free Time**

Paracas Morning

Make the most of some free time.

#### **Private Vehicle**

Paracas – Ica 1h 60km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

### **Your Foodie Moment: Huacachina Winery Visit**

Learn about the wine and pisco production in the area and enjoy a tasting of different varieties, which are all available for purchase.

#### **Huacachina Oasis visit**

Huacachina 2h

Stop by this beautiful oasis and opt to try your hand at the favourite local sport: sandboarding. The oasis is also a great place to walk around and explore.

#### **Private Vehicle**

Ica – Nazca 3h 140km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

### **Optional Activities - Day 3**

## **Sandboarding in Ica**

Ica 45m-1h

65PEN per person

Drive into the dunes in a sand buggy, making four stops along the way. Take some photos of the magnificent scenery before trying your hand at sandboarding down dunes of different sizes.

## **Ballestas Islands Wildlife Tour**

Paracas National Reserve – Pisco

Get ready to see some amazing wildlife on this trip to the Ballestas Islands (aka Peru's Little Galápagos).

Spot playful sea lions, Humboldt penguins, boobies, pelicans, and more than 200 sea birds. Be sure to bring your camera along!

## **Meals included: Breakfast**

## **Day 4 Nazca/Arequipa**

Take a guided tour of the Nazca desert cemetery and potter's studio. Opt for a flight over the Nazca Lines before the overnight bus to Arequipa.

Travel south to one of the world's greatest archaeological mysteries, the Nazca Lines. The lines consist of patterns and pictures etched in the ground, crisscrossing a wide area of flat desert. From the ground, we can make out very little, and the best view is from a light aircraft, which can easily be arranged.

Opt to pre-book your Flight over Nazca Lines on the checkout page to include this optional activity on your tour or ask your GCO or travel agent for assistance.

Remains of the Nazca culture are still visible during our included tour of the ancient Pre-Inca desert cemetery site of Chauchilla, with 2000-year-old mummies, bones, and pottery on the desert floor. The tour also includes a visit to an artisan's workshop, where modern masters create Nazca style pottery.

Later, board a night bus to Arequipa.

## **Nazca Desert Cemetery and Potter's Studio Guided Tour**

Nazca 2h30m-3h

See remains of the Nazca culture during an included tour of the ancient Pre-Inca desert cemetery site of Chauchilla. Spot 1500-year-old mummies, bones, and pottery on the desert floor. The entire desert area was also once home to the ancient Paracas and the Nazca cultures, which preceded the Incas by more than half a millennium. Stop for a visit at an artisan's workshop, where modern masters create Nazca style pottery.

## **Overnight Bus**

Nazca – Arequipa 9h

This comfortable double decker bus has toilet facilities on board.

## **Optional Activities - Day 4**

### **Flight over Nazca Lines**

Nazca

Take to the skies for the best view of the enigmatic Nazca Lines, a series of patterns and pictures etched in the ground, crisscrossing a wide area of flat desert. Marvel at the lines measuring up to 10km (6 mi) in length, yet, remaining perfectly straight. See depictions of birds, insects, and animals only recognizable from the air. Decide for yourself the origin of the lines – who drew the lines, and why, remains a mystery. Current beliefs suggest that they may be part of complex agricultural calendar.

Please note that this activity does not include a tourist ticket fee of S/.47 PEN per person, payable directly by each traveller at the airport in Nazca.

## **Meals included: Breakfast**

## **Day 5 Arequipa**

Enjoy a free day in Arequipa. Opt for a city tour or visit to the Santa Catalina Monastery.

Explore Arequipa, the 'white city'. Interested in history and architecture? Opt to visit to the Santa Catalina Monastery, offering a brief respite from the outside world and a unique view into a bygone way of life.

Pre-book by adding the Arequipa City Tour & Santa Catalina Monastery on the checkout page or ask your GCO or travel agent for assistance.

For those spicy food lovers, checking out one of the “Picanterías” is a must. Arequipa holds a variety of regional food— alpaca, shrimp, pork, lots of soups, and spicy sauces waiting for you to dig in.

## **Free Time**

Arequipa Full Day

Make the most of your time here.

## **Optional Activities - Day 5**

### **Juanita Museum**

Arequipa

60PEN per person

Visit the Museo Santuarios Andinos, also known as the Juanita Museum for the well-preserved mummy of a young Incan girl sacrificed to the Incan Gods in the 1500s. Juanita remained preserved on the top of Mt Ambato until quite recently, she was discovered in the mid-90s and was briefly displayed in the National Geographic headquarters in Washington, D.C.

### **Arequipa City Tour**

Arequipa

Get out and explore "the white city" on this walking tour, stop at picturesque viewpoints to capture the surrounding volcanoes, marvel at the white volcanic sillar rock architecture, and visit one of the most stunning colonial buildings in the country, Santa Catalina Monastery.

## **Day 6 Arequipa/Colca Canyon**

Travel to Chivay, a village near Colca Canyon, relax or take an optional dip in the thermal baths.

Travel a rough, rutted road through the Salinas y Aguada Blanca National Reserve. Along the way there are chances to see vicunas, alpacas and llamas. Stop at Mirador de Patapampa lookout, the highest point on the tour at 4,910m with views of nearby volcanoes.

### **Private Vehicle**

Arequipa – Chivay 4h30m-5h165km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

## **Optional Activities - Day 6**

### **Hot Springs**

Chivay

15PEN per person

Soak your weary bones in steaming hot water pouring from the earth and relax.

### **Meals included: Breakfast**

## **Day 7 Colca Canyon/Puno**

Rise early for a tour of Colca Canyon to spot condors. Continue by bus to Puno. Arrive with a little time to wander the markets and explore the city.

Climb over the mountains today, descending at Puno, which is on the shores of Lake Titicaca. Titicaca is also the largest lake in the world above 2000m, and the views from its Islands are stunning.

### **Local Bus**

Colca Canyon – Puno 6h250km

Climb aboard, grab a seat, and enjoy the ride.

### **Meals included: Breakfast**

## **Day 8 Puno/Lake Titicaca**

Enjoy a guided tour of Lake Titicaca with a homestay in a small village.

Head out by boat across Lake Titicaca. Visit the community on the Taquile Islands and stop at a local restaurant to enjoy lunch with spectacular views.

After, cruise to another village for an overnight homestay on the shores of the lake. This experience provides an opportunity to learn more about rural life in the Peruvian highlands and to participate in local traditions.

## **Lake Titicaca Guided Boat Tour Day 1**

Lake Titicaca

Board a boat on Lake Titicaca and head to Taquile Island for a delicious Peruvian lunch at a restaurant followed by some shopping at the local weaving cooperatives. (Taquileños are known for their fine handwoven textiles and clothing, men are taught how to knit around age five and they create the majority of the textiles.) After, enjoy an overnight stay with a host family and a chance to learn about life on the islands.

### **Your Local Living Moment: Lake Titicaca Homestay**

Split into smaller groups and get a taste of local life firsthand as we move into family homes for the night. Play soccer with the children, enjoy some dancing, watch dinner being made, learn about regional cuisine, and dress up in local clothes for an unforgettable evening with the whole village, enjoying traditional music and dancing. Lend a hand the next morning, and help out with chores like feeding animals, harvesting local produce, or bringing back buckets of water from the well.

### **Meals included: Breakfast | Dinner**

### **Day 9 Lake Titicaca/Puno**

Visit the floating islands of Uros before returning to Puno. Opt to visit to Sillustani burial site.

Leave the homestay families late morning and visit the Uros Islands on the way back to Puno. A popular optional activity in Puno is to visit to the spectacular chullpas (funerary towers) of Sillustani, a pre-Inca archaeological site only a short drive away.

Opt to get out on the water today and pre-book the Lake Titicaca Kayaking on the checkout page to include this optional activity on your tour or ask your GCO or travel agent for assistance.

### **Lake Titicaca Guided Boat Tour Day 2**

Lake Titicaca

Spend the morning with the homestay families, then depart after lunch. Visit the floating islands of Uros on the way back, and learn about the unique lifestyle of the locals. Meet residents and learn how they built the islands with totora reeds, which are also used to make their homes, boats, crafts (and are also edible!).

### **Uros Floating Islands Visit**

Lake Titicaca

Take a tour of these unique islands. Learn about the buoyant totora reeds that grow in the shallows of Lake Titicaca used to make everything from the islands themselves to the boats the islanders use for transportation (if constructed well, they last up to six months ). Find out from locals how the islands are constructed; as the layers closest to the water start to rot, they are replaced with fresh reeds on top.

### **Free Time**

Puno Afternoon

Make the most of one last afternoon in Puno.

### **Optional Activities - Day 9**

#### **Lake Titicaca Kayaking**

Lake Titicaca

Take to the waters of the highest navigable body of water in the world, Lake Titicaca, and paddle out to Laquina Island. Get a glimpse into local island life before heading back across the lake to Puno.

### **Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch**

### **Day 10 Puno/Cusco**

Hop on the bus for a full day's drive to Cusco.

The trip from Puno to Cusco takes the better part of the day, with stark, beautiful scenery en route as you travel through the high Altiplano region. Check out a bit of Cusco, find a spot for dinner, or get prepared to head into the Sacred Valley.

### **Local Bus**

Puno – Cusco 7h-8h

Climb aboard, grab a seat, and enjoy the ride.

### **Meals included: Breakfast**

### **Day 11 Cusco**

Take advantage the day to choose from a wide variety of optional activities like the Rainbow Mountain hike, a cooking class, or simply explore the city by foot and relax in a café.

Pre-book the Rainbow Mountain excursion or the Cooking Class on the checkout page to include these optional activity on your tour, or ask your GCO or travel agent for assistance.

Please note: if you pre-book the Cusco Cooking Class you will be picked up from your hotel at approx 12:30 and taken to a local market and restaurant to prepare and enjoy a traditional Peruvian meal. Return back to your hotel around 16:00.

### **Your Discover Moment**

Cusco Full Day

There's plenty to see and do in Cusco, and we wanted to make sure that you had some time to take it all in. Feel free to relax or try optional activities like visiting Museo Inka, Museo de Historia Regional, and whitewater rafting. Your CEO has more ideas if you need them. Just ask!

### **Optional Activities - Day 11**

#### **Inka Museum**

Cusco

10PEN per person

Get ready to explore the artifacts from the Inca Empire, including mummies, jewelry, skulls, and ceramics at this museum of archaeology.

#### **Cusco City Tour**

Cusco

45PEN per person

Enjoy a half-day tour of Cusco's main sights. Walk around the Plaza de Armas (main square) and explore this city steeped in one of the world's most alluring and ancient cultures. Visit Qenqo, Koricancha, the Cathedral, Puca Pucara, Tambomachay, and the archaeological site of Sacsaywaman.

#### **Cusco Tourist Ticket**

Cusco

130PEN per person

This ticket allows admission at 16 sights of the city of Cusco including many popular museums and cathedrals, the ticket also provides entrance to Sacsayhuaman Archaeological Park, and sights in the South Valley of Cusco and the Sacred Valley of the Incas.

#### **Rainbow Mountain Hike - Full-day Trip**

Cusco 7km

Lookout over these colourful Andean mountains striped with maroon, turquoise, lavender, and gold. The sediment, elevation, and proximity to the ocean create a landscape that has to be seen to be believed. Get started early to drive around 2 hours to the starting point of this challenging, yet rewarding full-day hike. Reaching 5,029m (16,500 ft) this 14km hike is no walk in the park, but these unique mountains do not disappoint.

#### **Cusco Cooking Class**

Cusco - Cuzco

Channel your inner chef and get a taste of Peruvian cuisine. Learn all about the essential ingredients, and try your hand at preparing unique Peruvian dishes with a local expert

#### **Meals included: Breakfast**

### **Day 12 Cusco/Ollantaytambo**

Enjoy a full-day guided tour of the Sacred Valley. Stop at the G Adventures-supported women's weaving co-op before visiting a local pottery making community. Break for lunch at the G Adventures-supported Parwa Community Restaurant in Huchuy Qosco. After lunch, opt to head out on a hike to the Ollantaytambo storehouses and look out over the ruins. Or, wander around the cobblestone streets and visit a local Chicheria (corn beer bar).

Travel through the stunning Sacred Valley of the Incas, visiting a G Adventures-supported women's weaving co-op. Meet the women and learn about traditional weaving and dyeing. Opt to pick up some handmade souvenirs and textiles directly from the women who made them.

Have lunch at the G Adventures-supported Parwa Community Restaurant. Learn about the G Adventures for Good project and eat a delicious buffet-style lunch. Proceeds of this meal go directly back to the remote community.

#### **Private Vehicle**

Cusco - Ollantaytambo 1h45m Full Day 94km

Make stops along the way as you pass through this gorgeous valley, descending in elevation the whole way.

#### **Your G for Good Moment: Ccaccaccollo Community and Women's Weaving Co-op visit**

Visit the Ccaccaccollo community centre which G Adventures travellers' donations helped create in 2005, thereby enabling local women to sell traditional textiles to travellers. See local weaving and dyeing techniques used to create garments and souvenirs, and learn how the Planeterra weaving co-operative has impacted the community and those who visit it. This includes the purchase of alpacas to provide a steady supply of wool, looms, and sewing machines as well as several training courses on production, sales and small business management.

#### **Cuyo Chico Pottery Making Demonstration**

Pisac - Urubamba

In the rural village of Cuyo Chico in the Sacred Valley, a group of families joined together to create a small business based on their traditional adobe ceramic crafts. Using clay from their surroundings, they mold bowls, plates, and all manner of decorations. Learn about the ceramics process as well as the traditional adobe brick-making that forms the basis of houses throughout the valley, all while taking in a spectacular view of the Pisac Ruins. After the demonstration, peruse the items for sale directly from the artisans in their shop.

### **Your G for Good Moment: Parwa Community Restaurant the Sacred Valley**

Contribute to sustainable tourism in Huchuy Qosqo, a small village of 65 families in the Sacred Valley, by eating at the Parwa Community Restaurant. Learn how the resident-run restaurant was kickstarted by G Adventures and the Multilateral Investment Fund, to become a successful farm-to-table program that boosts the local economy and several spin-off microenterprises.

### **Optional Activities - Day 12**

#### **Ollantaytambo Storehouse Ruins and Hike**

Ollantaytambo 1h-1h30m

Get your blood flowing on a steep hike up to the Pinkuylluna Incan storehouses. Perched on the hill, these ruins provide excellent views of the Sacred Valley and the Ollantaytambo ruins below.

**Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch**

### **Day 13 Inca Trail**

Depart Ollantaytambo by van to km 82 where the Inca Trail begins. Ease into the adventure with a straightforward day of hiking the meandering streams, stunning Andean scenery, and ancient Incan ruins.

Trek through beautiful scenery, with a variety of flora that changes with the seasons, passing several smaller ruin sites like Llactapata.

A crew of local porters, cooks, and guides will take care of all the details for the duration of the hike. Porters carry the majority of the gear so you'll only need to carry a small daypack with water, rain gear, snacks, a camera, etc.

### **Private Vehicle**

Ollantaytambo - Inca Trail 45m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

### **Inca Trail Hike**

Inca Trail KM 82 - Wayllabamba Camp 5h-6h 11km

Get your blood pumping on this first day of hiking the Inca trail. The trekking is fairly easy and serves as good training for the next few days. Pass rambling rivers and a small village, and enjoy scenic mountain views; it's just a taste of what's to come.

### **Your G for Good Moment: Handmade Biodegradable Soap Products**

Enjoy G Adventures-supported handmade biodegradable soap products, for use on our treks. This G Adventures for Good project empowered local Cusqueña women to start their own business in order to reduce the environmental impact of treks in the region. Planeterra provided \$10,000 of seed funding for two young entrepreneurs to register their biodegradable products in order to sell them to the tourism industry. "Esencia Andina" is now a successful business that produces biodegradable soaps, detergents, and natural products for travellers, guides, porters, and cooks on our treks.

**Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner**

### **Day 14 Inca Trail**

Start early to climb the long steep path to Warmiwañusca, better known as Dead Woman's Pass. This is the highest point of the trek at 4,198m (13,769 ft). Most hikers reach camp by early afternoon, with ample time to rest and relax.

### **Inca Trail Hike**

Wayllabamba Camp - Paqaymayo Camp 6h-7h 12km

Trek over progressively spectacular and steeper terrain on your way to Warmiwañusca (aka Dead Woman's Pass), the highest point of the trek at 4,198m (13,769ft). Be prepared to face strong Andean weather (blazing sun or cold winds) around the pass. Take the hike slow, and drink lots of water along the way - amazing views are waiting as a reward. Enjoy some ample time to rest and relax after reaching the camp; most campers arrive around early afternoon.

**Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner**

### **Day 15 Inca Trail**

Cross two more passes and ruins on today's trek. The first pass is Runquraqay at 3,950m (13,113 ft) where, on a clear day, hikers can catch a glimpse of the snow-capped Cordillera Vilcabamba. Hike

through the cloud forest on a gentle climb to the second pass of the day, walking through original Incan constructions. The highest point of the pass is 3,700m (12,136 ft). On a clear day, enjoy the spectacular views of the Urubamba Valley. At 3,650m (11,972 ft), reach the ruins of Phuyupatamarca, the "town above the clouds." Camp here or go another 1.5 hrs to the Wiñay Wayna ruins ("forever young") located at 2,650m (8,694 ft).

### **Inca Trail Hike**

Paqaymayo Camp – Wiñaywayna 9h 16km

Cross two passes and more ruins along the Inca Trail on the last full day of hiking. Traverse Runquraway at 3,950m (13,113 ft), and then reach the second pass at 3,700m (12,136 ft). Spot the gorgeous Cordillera Vilcabamba and the Urubamba Valley in the distance on a clear day. Camp at either the Phuyupatamarca ruins or the Wiñay Wayna ruins.

**Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner**

### **Day 16 Machu Picchu/Cusco**

The final day of the hike starts pre-dawn to reach the Sun Gate before sunrise. Catch the first views of the breathtaking ruins of Machu Picchu on a clear day. Hike down for a guided tour of the ruins, before your train back towards Cusco.

### **Inca Trail Hike**

Wiñaywayna – Machu Picchu 2h-3h 6km

Wake around 03:30 to reach the Sun Gate as early as possible. Head to the checkpoint and join the lineup to wait for the gate to open. Catch the first views of the breathtaking ruins of Machu Picchu (fingers crossed for a clear day). Hike down to Machu Picchu (about 45 mins) for a 1.5 hr guided tour of the site, and free time to explore. Opt to visit the Inca Bridge (a 15-min walk one way) for no additional charge, if time allows.

Catch the bus outside the Machu Picchu gate after your visit for a 25-min downhill ride to Aguas Calientes. Eat and relax before the train ride back to Cusco this evening.

### **Machu Picchu Guided Tour**

Machu Picchu 1h30m-2h Morning

Set off with the local guide to explore Machu Picchu, the Lost City of the Incas. Learn about the history and gain insights into this massive mountaintop citadel while wandering through ancient dwellings, stone temples and along sculpted terraces. Feel the energy of this 15th-century site, now both a UNESCO World Heritage site and voted one of the new Seven Wonders of the World in a worldwide internet poll.

### **Train**

Aguas Calientes – Ollantaytambo 1h30m-1h45m 31km

Climb aboard, take a seat, and enjoy the ride.

### **Private Vehicle**

Ollantaytambo – Cusco 1h30m-1h45m 60km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

**Meals included: Breakfast**

### **Day 17 Cusco**

Enjoy a free day to explore Cusco or relax. Opt to go mountain biking or get a massage.

If you pre-book the Culinary Bundle, you will be picked up from your hotel at approx 12:30 and taken to a local market and restaurant to prepare and enjoy a traditional Peruvian meal. You will return back to your hotel around 16:00.

### **Your Discover Moment**

Cusco Full Day

There's plenty to see and do in Cusco, and we wanted to make sure that you had some time to take it all in. Feel free to relax or try optional activities like visiting Museo Inka, Museo de Historia Regional, and whitewater rafting. Your CEO has more ideas if you need them. Just ask!

### **Optional Activities - Day 17**

#### **Cusco City Tour**

Cusco

45PEN per person

Enjoy a half-day tour of Cusco's main sights. Walk around the Plaza de Armas (main square) and explore this city steeped in one of the world's most alluring and ancient cultures. Visit Qenqo, Koricancha, the Cathedral, Puca Pucara, Tambomachay, and the archaeological site of Sacsaywaman.

#### **Cusco Tourist Ticket**

Cusco



130PEN per person

This ticket allows admission at 16 sights of the city of Cusco including many popular museums and cathedrals, the ticket also provides entrance to Sacsayhuaman Archaeological Park, and sights in the South Valley of Cusco and the Sacred Valley of the Incas.

### **Inka Museum**

Cusco

10PEN per person

Get ready to explore the artifacts from the Inca Empire, including mummies, jewelry, skulls, and ceramics at this museum of archaeology.

### **Meals included: Breakfast**

### **Day 18 Cusco/Tambopata**

Fly to Puerto Maldonado and continue by motorized boat to the comfortable and intimate G Lodge Amazon.

Fly to Puerto Maldonado, deep in the lowlands of the Amazon Jungle.

After a brief stop in town to store large luggage, drive to the pier and travel by covered motorized boat to the jungle lodge. En route, see birds typical of the river or forest edge. The Tambopata Rainforest Area holds the world record for the most bird sightings in one area.

Local community members make up the majority of the lodge staff, including multilingual naturalist guides. Here you have the opportunity to learn from them not only about the area's rich flora and fauna, but also about their extensive practical uses for medicinal plants and other forest plant resources, through traditional techniques for building, fishing, and hunting.

The lodge itself combines native architectural style and materials with low-impact eco-friendly technology. Rooms are simple but comfortable, with mosquito netting for individual beds, flush toilets, showers (with solar-heated hot water), and candles for lighting (no electricity). Please note in periods of high demand you may be accommodated in a nearby Amazon lodge.

### **Plane**

Cusco – Puerto Maldonado 1h

On arrival, take a private vehicle to the lodge's office in Puerto Maldonado town to store large luggage. You will be provided with duffels to bring only what you need into the jungle. From there, travel about 1 hr to reach the boat landing.

### **Motorized Canoe**

Puerto Maldonado – Tambopata 2h-3h

Climb in and move swiftly through the water to the next stop.

### **Wildlife-spotting Night Walk**

Tambopata

Get the lowdown on local flora and fauna, and grab a flashlight to discover what's living around lodge grounds. Receive help from the talented, expert naturalist guide to locate heaps of hidden creatures! Keep an eye out for snakes, tarantulas, owls, and poison dart frogs, just to name a few.

### **Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner**

### **Day 19 Tambopata**

Enjoy guided excursions by expert naturalists to spot wildlife at nearby oxbow lakes and along jungle trails. Spend some time relaxing in a hammock, enjoying the local swimming hole or visiting a nearby plantation. Go for a caiman-spotting cruise after dinner.

Head out early to catch the jungle at its wildest (and coolest). Walk slowly through the forest searching for wildlife before heading out on an oxbow lake by canoe. Search for anaconda, the elusive giant river otter or black caiman. Even if you don't spot these shy creatures, there are plenty of other birds, interesting plants and other animals to discover.

### **Jungle Excursions**

Tambopata

Enjoy visits to oxbow lakes to learn about the jungle and its inhabitants. Be introduced to the area's rich flora and fauna by expert naturalist guides, who can teach extensive uses for medicinal and other forest plant resources through traditional techniques. Be prepared to go early morning or evening to avoid the heat of midday. Enjoy a leisurely pace – the trip requires some walking, but nothing too strenuous.

### **Free Time**

Tambopata Afternoon

Spend time around the lodge or further afield.

### **Caiman-Spotting Cruise**

Tambopata Evening

Head out after dark by motorized canoe to search for caimans on the river banks. Enjoy a lesson on caimans from the expert guide. Take advantage of the keen eyes of the expert naturalist guides – they are truly spectacular at spotting these elusive smaller cousins of alligators hiding on the muddy banks.

**Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner**

### **Day 20 Tambopata/Lima**

Fly back to Lima for an optional final dinner and night out.

Have a final delicious Amazonian breakfast before heading back towards the airport by motorized boat and van. Fly to Lima and opt for a final night out for dinner or Pisco Sours.

### **Motorized Canoe**

Tambopata – Puerto Maldonado 3h

Climb in and move swiftly through the water to the next stop.

### **Plane**

Puerto Maldonado – Lima 1h30m-2h

Take a van from the pier to pick up stored luggage before heading to the Puerto Maldonado airport. Make a brief stop in Cusco en route to Lima. A private vehicle will be waiting to take the group to the Lima hotel.

**Meals included: Breakfast**

### **Day 21 Lima/Quito**

Fly to Quito. Flight is unescorted and included in the price of the tour.

Your transfer to the airport and your flight to Quito are included in this trip. Please note that this flight is unescorted and your transfer will be waiting for you at the Quito airport and will bring you to your hotel.

### **Private Vehicle**

Lima – Jorge Chávez International Airport Morning

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

### **Plane**

Jorge Chávez International Airport – Mariscal Sucre International Airport 2h30m Morning

Look! Up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's... yup, it is a plane, actually.

### **Private Vehicle**

Mariscal Sucre International Airport – Quito Afternoon

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

### **Optional Welcome Meeting for Travellers on Combos**

Evening

You may be a seasoned pro at group travel by now, but there will likely be some new travellers joining the group. Sit in on the welcome meeting to meet the newest members of your group and learn about the next leg of your tour.

**Meals included: Breakfast**

### **Day 22 Quito/Puerto Ayora**

Transfer early to the airport for the flight to the Galápagos Islands. Upon arrival meet the Naturalist Guide, who will assist with the transfer to the Xavier, located in Puerto Ayora on Santa Cruz Island. Visit the Santa Cruz highlands and get up close and personal with giant tortoises.

Flights from Quito to Baltra depart between 6:40am and 9:40am depending on the day of the week. These will arrive into the Galápagos between 9:30am and 12:30pm with a short refuelling stop in Guayaquil (you will not disembark the plane). You will generally arrive at the boat in time for lunch before the afternoon activity.

The National Park charges a visitor fee of USD100, payable on arrival, which funds park maintenance and supervision in the Galápagos as well as ecological study, conservation, and infrastructure development in Ecuador's other National Parks. Entry fees and the funds they generate for the National Park System are among measures taken by the Ecuadorian government to protect its natural heritage.

### **Plane**

Mariscal Sucre International Airport – Seymour Airport 2h

Look! Up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's... yup, it is a plane, actually.

### **Highlands Giant Tortoises Visit**

Santa Cruz Island

Head to Santa Cruz's verdant highlands. This is a perfect place to hike through the grounds and see giant tortoises in their natural environment, before savouring an included lunch.

### **Xavier III**

Puerto Ayora – Chinese Hat

When it comes to our stellar fleet of Galápagos vessels, the Xavier is made for both great value and great service. The luxury of local and international cuisine, daily excursions to explore the islands, and picturesque views of the Galápagos from the outdoor deck.

**Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner**

### **Day 23 Chinese Hat/Black Turtle Cove**

Visit Chinese Hat for snorkelling opportunities and to observe the birds and sea lions before taking an excursion to Black Turtle Cove to see the marine life.

Spot Galápagos penguins and explore marine life that is fantastic for snorkelling. There is also a large sea lion colony at Chinese Hat as well as many marine iguanas that can be seen on the guided walk. Hike among the volcanic scenery, with good views to the cone of the island's volcano.

In the afternoon, take an excursion by "panga" to Black Turtle Cove to witness the extensive mangrove system and interesting waterway canals. Sea turtles and different species of rays can often be seen in this cove, offering a peaceful and fascinating glimpse into the diversity of the area.

### **Chinese Hat Visit**

Chinese Hat 1h-2h 1-2km

Explore Chinese Hat's beautiful landscape and view many geological formations such as lava tubes and lava flows.

### **Snorkelling (Chinese Hat)**

Chinese Hat 45m-1h

Snorkel right from the white-coral sand beach and come face to face with playful sea lions and large schools of tropical fish. Keep an eye out for marine iguanas and penguins.

### **Black Turtle Cove Excursion**

Black Turtle Cove

Explore the mangroves by panga to find rich marine wildlife between the fresh and salt waters. Keep any eye out for sting rays and sea turtles in this tranquil ecosystem. Whitetip reef sharks can also be seen gliding by.

### **Xavier III**

Black Turtle Cove – Cerro Dragón

When it comes to our stellar fleet of Galápagos vessels, the Xavier is made for both great value and great service. The luxury of local and international cuisine, daily excursions to explore the islands, and picturesque views of the Galápagos from the outdoor deck.

**Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner**

### **Day 24 Cerro Dragón/Islas Daphne**

Visit Cerro Dragón on the west coast of Santa Cruz Island to see land iguanas and a salt water lagoon frequented by flamingos and other species of birds. Continue to Daphne Island in the afternoon to spot birds and wildlife.

### **Cerro Dragón Visit**

Cerro Dragón 1h-3h Morning 1-2km

Visit Cerro Dragón (Dragon Hill) for some prime birdwatching. Take a short walk from the beach to a hypersaline (saltier than the ocean) lagoon frequented by pink flamingos, common stilts, pintail ducks, and other species of birds. Pass through a Palo Santo tree forest; endemic to the area, there are only 400 specimens of Scalesia trees left in the world.

### **Daphne Island Visit**

Islas Daphne Afternoon

Travel to Daphne, a tiny conical island, home to nesting blue-footed boobies, frigatebirds, Darwin's finches, and a variety of marine life. Observe from the boat as this island is dedicated to scientific research. This island was where Dr. Peter Grant conducted a long-term study of Darwin's finches.

### **Xavier III**

Islas Daphne – Islas Plaza

When it comes to our stellar fleet of Galápagos vessels, the Xavier is made for both great value and great service. The luxury of local and international cuisine, daily excursions to explore the islands, and picturesque views of the Galápagos from the outdoor deck.

**Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner**

### **Day 25 Islas Plaza/Santa Fé Island**

Land at South Plaza in the morning for wildlife spotting opportunities. Afternoon visit to Santa Fé Island for guided walks to observe the wildlife and plentiful marine iguanas. Opportunities for swimming and snorkelling with the sea lions.

#### **South Plaza Island Visit**

South Plaza

Visit South Plaza, one of the smallest islands in the Galápagos, which has one of the largest populations of land iguanas. Walk along a path through a cactus forest and view a combination of dry and coastal vegetation on this lively island, home to a wide range of fauna, including incredible birdlife. Spot red-billed tropicbirds and indigenous swallow-tailed gulls resting on the cliffs, and sea lions playing in the waters.

#### **Santa Fe Island Visit**

Santa Fé Island

Visit Santa Fé for amazing wildlife watching opportunities. Hike towards the cliffs along the island's northern shore to view the forest of giant prickly pear cactus (Opuntia), which is home to endemic land iguanas. It is also one of the best locations to see sea turtles, sea lions, and maybe even get a glimpse of a whitetip reef shark from the panga.

#### **Xavier III**

Santa Fé Island – San Cristóbal Island

When it comes to our stellar fleet of Galápagos vessels, the Xavier is made for both great value and great service. The luxury of local and international cuisine, daily excursions to explore the islands, and picturesque views of the Galápagos from the outdoor deck.

### **Optional Activities - Day 25**

#### **Snorkelling (Santa Fé)**

Santa Fé Island

Enjoy some amazing snorkelling right off the beach in Santa Fé. Swim with playful sea lions, and search for sea turtles, rays, and reef sharks while getting great views of large schools of brightly coloured tropical fish.

**Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner**

### **Day 26 San Cristóbal Island/Quito**

Visit the Interpretation Centre on San Cristóbal Island before flying back to Quito.

Transfer to the group hotel upon arrival, and enjoy one last night on the town.

Flights from San Cristóbal to Quito depart between 11:30am and 1:30pm depending on the day of the week. These will arrive into Quito between 4:00pm and 5:40pm with a refuelling stop in Guayaquil (you will not disembark the plane). You will arrive back at the hotel in the early evening in time for dinner.

#### **Interpretation Center Visit**

San Cristóbal Island 1h-2h

Learn about the history of the Galápagos Islands from the very beginning of their volcanic origins through to today's conservation efforts. Tour the Human History exhibit to learn about the islands' discovery and colonization, and discover the natural history and variety of flora and fauna that make the Galápagos so fascinating.

#### **Plane**

San Cristóbal Airport – Mariscal Sucre International Airport 3h

Look! Up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's... yup, it is a plane, actually.

**Meals included: Breakfast**

### **Day 27 Quito**

Depart at any time.

Post nights in Quito are recommended to take advantage of the many activities available.

Opt to pre-book the "Quito City Tour & Equator Line" activity on the checkout page ahead of time to include this optional on your tour.

### Departure Day

Not ready to leave? Your CEO can help with travel arrangements to extend your adventure.

### Optional Activities - Day 27

#### Quito City Tour

Quito

40-50USD per person

Take a tour of Quito to learn more about this beautiful city and its local culture. Visit the Old Town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, with stops at the golden Compañía Church, San Francisco Square, and the Panecillo, a towering statue of the virgin of Quito who looks out over a stunning view of the city.

#### Quito City Tour and Equator

Quito

Enjoy a city tour of Quito. Visit the Old Town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, with stops at the Basilica del Voto Nacional, La Compañía Church, San Francisco Square, Plaza Grande and the Panecillo, a towering statue of the virgin of Quito who looks out over a stunning view of the city. Drive 25km (16 mi) north of Quito to the Middle of the World, latitude 0°. Stand with one foot in each hemisphere.

Please note that this tour starts at 8 a.m.

#### Middle of the World

Quito

40-50USD per person

Drive 25km (16 mi) north of Quito to the Middle of the World, latitude 0°. Stand with one foot in each hemisphere, visit the Intiñan Museum which showcases the immense cultural diversity within this small South American country. On the 00°00'00" magnetic line at the museum experiment with gravity. Later, head up to the Pululahua crater view point, one of the two inhabited volcanic caldera in the world.

#### Cotopaxi Volcano - Full Day Trip

Cotopaxi - Alausí

Enjoy a spectacular 2 hour drive to Cotopaxi Volcano National Park to see the highest active volcano in the world (5,897m/ 19,347 ft). Visit a museum in the park and hike around a lagoon at the bottom of the volcano to learn about the flora and fauna found at this altitude. Continue by car up the volcano to the parking lot, at over 4,500m/14,763 ft. Walk for an hour and a half to the refuge and after a short break, continue to the glacier (if the weather holds out). Return to Quito in the afternoon. \*\*Park entrance fee is not included and is split among the number of travellers in the group\*\*

#### Papallacta Hot Springs - Full Day Trip

Papallacta

70-100USD per person

Drive two hours out of Quito to Papallacta Hot Springs, located on the Cinnamon trail, (65km from Quito) which is the same route that Francisco de Orellana took in 1542 when he crossed the Andean mountain range in search of spices and gold, and discovered the Amazon River. Relax in hot springs of varying temperatures with views of the Antisana volcano. Opt to go hiking, horseback riding or get a spa service for an additional cost. Lunch and entrance fees to hot springs are not included.

#### Meals included: Breakfast

### What's Included

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Your G for Good Moment: Ccaccaccollo Community and Women's Weaving Co-op visit, Ccaccaccollo

Your G for Good Moment: Parwa Community Restaurant the Sacred Valley, Lamay

Your G for Good Moment: Handmade Biodegradable Soap Products

Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your CEO and Group

Your Foodie Moment: Huacachina Winery Visit, Huacachina

Your Local Living Moment: Lake Titicaca Homestay, Lake Titicaca

Your Discover Moment: Cusco. Cruise the Galápagos Islands aboard the Xavier (4 nts). Incredible wildlife encounters. Daily opportunities for swimming and snorkelling. Snorkelling equipment and wetsuits in the Galápagos. Guided tour of Nazca desert cemetery and potter's studio. Guided tour of Colca Canyon.

Guided tour of Taquile and Uros Islands on Lake Titicaca. Sacred Valley guided tour. Pottery making demonstration. Inca Trail hike with local guide, cook, and porters (4-days). Guided tour of Machu Picchu.

Excursion to G Adventures' exclusive Amazon lodge (3-days). Internal flights. All transport between destinations and to/from included activities.

### Highlights

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Cruise the Galápagos for four nights aboard the Xavier III, snorkel with sea lions, spot rare birds in secluded lagoons, find land iguanas feeding in the cactus forests on South Plaza Island, Visit Lake Titicaca and opt to fly over the Nazca Lines, trek the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu, encounter wildlife in the Amazon Jungle.

## Dossier Disclaimer

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The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and the operator. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

## Itinerary Disclaimer

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While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

## Important Notes

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### 1. COMBO TRIP

Please note that this tour is a combination of two G Adventure trips and the different sections of your trip will be led by different CEOs, one in Ecuador and one in Peru.

### 2. RULES IN MACHU PICCHU/INCA TRAIL

The rules and regulations controlling the Inca Trail and Machu Picchu are continually changing. Before embarking on your adventure to Peru it is very important that you familiarize yourself with the Inca Trail booking policies and guidelines as described in a document available on our website, at the following URL address:

<http://www.gadventures.com//terms-conditions/inca-trail-booking-policies/>

### 3. DON'T WANT TO HIKE THE INCA TRAIL?

Please advise at time of booking if you do not wish to hike the Inca Trail. Instead, you will have 2 nights in Cusco, travel by train for a night in Aguas Calientes, and join the hikers for the tour of Machu Picchu.

### 4. INCA TRAIL CLOSURES

Portions of the Inca Trail will be closed for general maintenance during the month of February each year. Also, closures may occur at various times throughout the year due to inclement weather or other conditions beyond our control. During these periods, any tour affected will hike the Lares Trek.

### 5. CONFIRM THESE DETAILS WITH US

Once you have confirmed your booking please give us your international flight details and advise us if you have any important issues such as allergies, special diets, etc.

### 6. GALAPAGOS ISLAND PARK ENTRY FEE

The Ecuadorian government currently levies a Galapagos Islands Park entry fee of \$100 USD per person. This is payable at the airport upon arrival in the park. It is not included in the cost of the tour, and must be paid in CASH. This fee funds Park maintenance and supervision in Galapagos, as well as ecological study, conservation and infrastructure development in Ecuador's other National Parks. Entry fees and the funds they generate for the National Park System are among measures taken by the Ecuadorian government to protect its natural heritage.

### 7. TRANSIT CONTROL CARDS

The Consejo de Gobierno (local government council) have implemented a system of Transit Control Cards at a fee of \$20 USD per person. This card is to be purchased in CASH at a counter in the Quito airport before boarding the flight to the Galapagos. Please retain this card along with your passport as you will be required to present this upon arrival to the Galapagos Islands. Please note that this applies to all tourists entering the Galapagos Islands and is a supplement to the existing entry fee to the National Park and is not controlled by tour operators or travel agencies. It is the first of a number of initiatives to track, control and maintain the sustainable tourism targets set out by the Galapagos National Park and the Ecuadorian government in an attempt to preserve the fragile environment of the archipelago.

## 8. YACHT CABINS

Please note that the rooming on our Galapagos yachts is done on a first-come, first-serve basis, and we are not able to guarantee the specific cabin you will receive on board. The cabins are comfortable and clean, all with private bathrooms. Due to the specific location of the cabins on board, the window sizes vary as well as the noise at times when the boat is navigating, given the proximity of the cabin to the engine room. Our friendly and competent crew will ensure the smooth and comfortable journey for the duration of your tour.

9. In our continued effort to support the rights of the porters on the Inca Trail, we would like ensure that they never exceed the weight limit for their packs as set out by the Peruvian authorities. Porters are allowed to carry no more than 6kg of personal belongings per hiker (for all other Peru treks the limit is 7kg). That means that including your sleeping bag, toiletries, clothing, etc, you are allowed a total weight of 6kg for the hike which will be carried in a duffle bag provided by our local office. Any additional weight must then be carried by you in your day pack. To help achieve this goal we recommend that you carry travel sized toiletries, that you bring sport sandals that can be worn with socks (which are lighter than running/walking shoes) and that you limit electronics to those that you are willing to carry. Any additional baggage can be left in Cusco, but is advised that you bring anything of value (eg. money, passport, credit cards, camera, etc) with you on the trek.

If at the end of your trek you felt your trekking guide and support team did an outstanding job, tipping is appreciated. The amount is entirely a personal preference, please see the Tipping section for guidelines.

10. All travellers are required to pay the tax on domestic flights in Peru. Foreign travellers are exempt from this, and proving you are indeed a foreign traveller can be done by providing us with your international ticket number (ITN). Travellers who do not submit international ticket numbers at least 30 days prior to Day 1 of their tour will be required to pay the domestic tax on all included flights.

## Group Leader Description

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Your G Adventures group trip is accompanied by one of our group leaders. The aim of the group leader is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. They will provide information on the places you are travelling through, offer suggestions for things to do and see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends. While not being guides in the traditional sense you can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the countries visited on the trip, including historical, cultural, religious and social aspects. We also use local guides where we think more specific knowledge will add to the enjoyment of the places we are visiting- we think it's the best of both worlds. For your Galapagos voyage we have a highly experienced shipboard staff and crew, including a local naturalist guide in the Galapagos (certified by the Galapagos National Park).

## Group Size Notes

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Max 16, Avg 12.

## Meals Included

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25 breakfasts, 11 lunches, 10 dinners

## Meals

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Eating is a big part of traveling. G Adventures understands the importance of breakfast to start your day, we strive to include a basic breakfast wherever possible. A typical breakfast may include toast, coffee and tea, however this may vary depending on the city. Should breakfast not be included, your CEO can suggest some local options.

Travelling with G Adventures you experience the vast array of wonderful food that is available out in the world. Generally meals are not included in the trip price when there is a choice of eating options, to give you the maximum flexibility in deciding where, what and with whom to eat. It also gives you more budgeting flexibility, though generally food is cheap. Our groups tend to eat together to enable you to taste a larger variety of dishes and enjoy each other's company. There is no obligation to do this though. Your CEO will be able to suggest favourite restaurants during your trip. While trekking in remote regions etc. food is included, plentiful and made of fresh local ingredients.

For all trips please refer to the meals included and budget information for included meals and meal budgets.

## Transport

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Plane, motorized yacht, private van, train, public bus, boat, canoe, Zodiac, taxi.

## Local Flights

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All local flights are included in the cost of your tour unless otherwise noted. It is important that we have your passport information at the time of booking in order to process these tickets. Internal flight tickets are issued locally and will be given to you prior to the flight departure.

## Solo Travellers

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We believe single travellers should not have to pay more to travel so our group trips are designed for shared accommodation and do not involve a single supplement. Single travellers joining group trips are paired in twin or multi-share accommodation with someone of the same sex for the duration of the trip. Some of our Independent trips are designed differently and single travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

## Accommodation

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Hotels/guesthouses (15 nts), G Lodge Amazon (2 nts), overnight bus (1 nt), homestay (1 nt), camping (3 nts), motorized yacht (4 nts, twin-share).

## Rooming and "My Own Room" Exceptions

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Please note that if you have booked the "My Own Room" option for this tour, you will receive your own single accommodation for all night stops, with the following exceptions: Night 4: overnight bus, Nights 11-12: Colca Canyon, Night 14: homestay, Nights 18-20: Inca Trail, Nights 23-24: Amazon Jungle.

If you have chosen the Lares Trek/Cusco Stay you will have a single room/tent for nights 18-20.

## About Accommodation

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Please note that hot water shortages and power outages can be fairly common in Latin America (even in upgraded hotels and private homes). We appreciate your patience and understanding that these occurrences are outside of our control.

## Joining Hotel

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For details of your joining hotel please refer to your tour voucher, G Account, the G Adventures App or contact your travel agent.

## Joining Instructions

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Jorge Chavez International Airport in Callao Lima, is approximately a 45-minute drive from the Miraflores district, where our joining hotel is located. The easiest way to get there is via taxi. Immediately after the customs and immigration area, as you head to the exits, you will find an official taxi stand. You can pay for the car at set (approximately \$27 USD) rates and won't need to worry about sorting out a ride outside the airport facilities, where the situation tends to get more chaotic, with many drivers vying for few clients. There are exchange facilities in the Arrivals area open 24 hours.

If you have paid in advance for an arrival transfer, a G Adventures representative will be at the airport to meet you. If for any reason you are not met at the airport, please call our local support line. If you are unable to make contact for whatever reason, please make your way to the joining point hotel via taxi.

Please note that Day 1 is an arrival day and no activities have been planned for that day other than your welcome meeting in the evening, so you can arrive at any time.

A G Adventures Representative will organize a short meeting soon after arrival, during which you will meet other tour participants and receive information about general and specific aspects of the trip. A welcome note will be left for you in the hotel so you have all the necessary information regarding the meeting time. If you arrive late, s/he will leave you a message detailing what time and where you should meet the next morning.

## Arrival Complications

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We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, as soon as possible please contact your starting point hotel, requesting that you speak to or leave a message for your CEO (if you are not on a group tour please refer to the emergency contact details provided in this dossier). If you are unable to get in touch with your leader, please refer to our emergency contact details. If you have pre-booked an airport transfer and have not made contact with our representative within 30 minutes of clearing customs and immigration, we recommend that you make your own way to the Starting Point hotel, following the Joining Instructions. Please apply to your travel agent on your return for a refund of the transfer cost if this occurs.



## Emergency Contact

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Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call either the G Adventures Local Representative (if one is listed below) or our G Adventures Local Office. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so they may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

### AIRPORT TRANSFER

If you have purchased an arrival through G Adventures or if an arrival transfer is included in the cost of your tour, please note that:

Your arrival transfer has been arranged based on flight information provided to us. If you are advised of a flight schedule change within 48 hours of your scheduled arrival time, we will do our best to rearrange your arrival transfer however we cannot guarantee this. If your arrival transfer does not arrive within 30 minutes after you have exited the arrivals area please take a taxi to your start point hotel.

### EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

G Adventures Local Office Lima, Peru.

During office hours (Weekdays, 9-6pm Local Time): +51 1 241 1650 or 01 241 1650 (from mobile within Peru) or 241 1650 (from payphone within Peru)

After hours Emergency number: +51 99 758 2712. (WhatsApp Available)

G Adventures Local Office Quito, Ecuador

During office hours (Weekdays 9am-6pm Local Time)

From outside Ecuador: + (593 2) 223-0791 or (+593 2) 223-6641 or (+593 2) 254-3183

After hours Emergency number + (593 9) 99 506 000 or (09) 99 506 000 (from within Ecuador)

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local office, please call the numbers listed below which will connect you directly with our Sales team who will happily assist you. Hours of operation by region can be found [here](#).

Toll-free, North America only: 1 888 800 4100

Calls from UK: 0344 272 0000

Calls from Germany: 0800 365 1000

Calls from Australia: 1 300 796 618

Calls from New Zealand: 0800 333 307

Outside North America, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the UK: +1 416 260 0999

## Continuing Point Hotel

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Hotel Hilton Colon-Standard

Avenida Amazonas N19-14 y Avenida Patria

Quito

Ecuador

Tel: +593 2 2560 666

## Continuing Point Instructions

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On day 21, you will fly from Lima to Quito. Included in this trip is your transfer to the airport and your flight to Quito. A transfer will be waiting for you at Quito airport and will transfer you to your hotel. A G Adventures representative will contact you at the joining point hotel in Quito regarding the Galapagos portion of the trip. Overnight in Quito.

The last day of the tour is a departure day in which no activities have been planned.

Excess luggage can be stored free of charge at the continuing hotel during the Ecuadorian portion of your tour if desired.

## What to Take

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Most people automatically assume that the weather is hot in South America, but because of the higher altitude in the Andes, the temperature can feel quite cold, especially at night.

There is not a lot of extra space on the boat in the Galapagos. Life aboard the yacht is very informal, making casual, comfortable clothing a must.

Please note that Galapagos is a protected National Park so your luggage will be checked before arrival and departure to and from the islands. Don't bring with you any food, seeds or other organic material that could affect the delicate ecosystem of the islands.

Porters are not often available, so be prepared to carry your own bags. Please remember that you can leave unnecessary articles in your joining hotel storage room.

Please do not bring any alcoholic beverages aboard, as your boat has a bar offering a variety of alcoholic drinks and prices are reasonable.

**LUGGAGE ALLOWANCE ON THE BOAT:** Please note that the amount of luggage you can bring on the boat is LIMITED due to small cabin size. We recommend travellers use soft sided duffel bags of 40-50 litres in capacity. We will accept luggage types onboard, however if you are a single traveller sharing with another traveller, it's especially important to keep in mind that cabins are small in size and it's best to pack light. Luggage storage facilities are available at the start hotel for anything you don't need while you are exploring the Galapagos.

Please note that the electric outlets on this boat are 110v and will have either 2 flat prongs or two pin-like prongs. If necessary please bring an adaptor with you for your electric devices, ie, battery chargers.

## **Packing List**

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Amazon:

- Knee-length socks
- Loose-fitting, light coloured hiking pants
- Loose-fitting, light coloured long-sleeved shirts
- Pack liners to waterproof bags

Available for Rent During Your Trek Briefing (Payment only by Credit Card):

- Camping mattress/sleep mat (45 soles)
- Sleeping bag (45 soles)
- Walking poles (15 soles each (30 per pair))

Cold Weather:

- Long-sleeved shirts or sweater
- Scarf
- Snow Boots
- Warm gloves
- Warm hat
- Warm layers
- Warm waterproof jacket

Documents:

- Flight info (required) (Printouts of e-tickets may be required at the border)
- Insurance info (required) (With photocopies)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Vouchers and pre-departure information (required)
- Visas or vaccination certificates (With photocopies)

#### Essentials:

- Toiletries (required) (Shampoo, bodywash, soap, etc.)
- Binoculars (optional)
- Camera (With extra memory cards and batteries)
- Cash, credit and debit cards
- Day pack (Used for daily excursions or short overnights)
- Ear plugs
- First-aid kit (should contain lip balm with sunscreen, sunscreen, whistle, Aspirin, Ibuprofen, bandaids/plasters, tape, anti-histamines, antibacterial gel/wipes, antiseptic cream, Imodium or similar tablets for mild cases of diarrhea, rehydration powder, water purification tablets or drops, insect repellent, sewing kit, extra prescription drugs you may be taking)
- Flashlight/torch (Headlamps are ideal)
- Fleece top/sweater
- Footwear
- Hat
- Locks for bags
- Long pants/jeans
- Moneybelt
- Outlet adapter
- Personal entertainment (Reading and writing materials, cards, music player, etc.)
- Reusable water bottle
- Shirts/t-shirts
- Sleepwear
- Small travel towel
- Sunglasses
- Swimwear
- Watch and alarm clock
- Waterproof backpack cover
- Windproof rain jacket

#### Health & Safety:

- Hand sanitizer (required)
- Face masks (Clients will be only be required to wear a face mask where it is mandated by local regulations.)
- Pen (Please bring your own pen for filling out documents.)
- Quick Covid Test/Antigen Test

#### Inca Trail:

- Hiking pants (Convertible/Zip-off and quick dry recommended)
- Pack liners to waterproof bags
- Rain gear
- Sleeping bag (Also available for rent)
- Thermal base layer
- Travel pillow
- Walking poles, rubber-tipped (Also available for rent)
- Waterproof hiking boots

#### Marine:

- Drybag (Will help keep cameras and essentials dry)
- External battery pack
- Motion sickness tablets
- Sarong
- Snorkel gear (optional) (Only if own equipment is preferred.)

#### Warm Weather:

- Sandals/flip-flops
- Shorts/skirts (Longer shorts/skirts are recommended)
- Sturdy water shoes/sandals
- Sun hat/bandana
- Swimwear

Note: The best clothing for trekking is either wool or synthetic materials in layers, as this is quick-drying and can keep heat in better. We suggest a base-layer, then a mid-layer such as a light fleece jacket or similar, then a windproof and waterproof layer.

Please note for trekking rentals credit cards are the preferred method of payment.

## Laundry

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Laundry facilities are offered by some of our hotels for a charge. There will be times when you may want to or have to do your own laundry so we suggest you bring non-polluting/biodegradable soap.

## Visas and Entry Requirements

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All countries require a valid passport (with a minimum 6 months validity). Contact your local embassy or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements, or see your travel agent. It is your own responsibility to have the correct travel documentation. Visa requirements for your trip will vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. We keep the following information up to date as far as possible, but rules do change and sometimes without warning. While we provide the following information in good faith, it is vital that you check the information yourself and understand that you are fully responsible for your own visa requirements.

Visa information specific to your destination and nationality can be found in our Important Pre-Departure Information page [here](#)

## Detailed Trip Notes

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### G Adventures ADVENTURER YACHT

Our Galapagos boat, the g1, is an air-conditioned motor vessel with a capacity for 16 passengers. Spacious cabins feature a large view window, upper and lower berths, and private bathroom facilities. Recently refurbished, it of 8 crew members, including a certified naturalist guide. Your total comfort is ensured by our helpful, cheerful staff who will attend to your every need. Additional vessel features include cozy bar, a small library and dining room. All meals are provided and are served aboard the vessel. You may purchase alcoholic beverages, water and soft drinks on the boat. In addition you are allowed to bring your own non-alcoholic beverages with you if you have any personal preferences.

### PLEASE NOTE:

At times, when the g1 is being serviced, we will use another boat of equivalent standard and size. In this case a different itinerary may be used.

### LIFE ON BOARD

The daily schedule consists of a shore excursion immediately following breakfast, lunch aboard and perhaps a siesta before the afternoon shore excursion. In the evening after dinner, your naturalist guide will brief you on the islands to be visited the following day. You are ferried from the yacht to shore via small boats called pangas. Landings are either "dry" or "wet", where you might have to wade ashore in shallow water. Your naturalist guide will accompany you during all excursions.

### ACCOMMODATION

This is a G Adventures Classic tour, all accommodation will be Tourist Class and of a Standard service level.

### CLIMATE

Located on the Equator, the Galapagos climate is tempered by the Humboldt Current, so you do not experience extreme heat. The warmest weather is December to June, when temperatures range from 22-33°C (72-90 °F), and the water temperature is in the mid 20s (mid 70s °F). From July to November, the temperatures are cooler and range from 18-24°C (60s -75°F). The average water temperature rarely reaches 21°C (70°F).

## Spending Money

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Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

## Money Exchange

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The currency in Peru is the Nuevo Sol (PEN) and in Ecuador the US Dollar (USD).

Credit cards and debit cards are very useful for cash advances. Visa cards are the most widely accepted cards. While ATMs are widely available, there are no guarantees that your credit or debit cards will actually work in Latin America. Check with your bank.

You should be aware that to purchase products or services on a credit card a fee of 5%-10% usually applies.

Do not rely on credit or debit cards as your only source of money, a combination of US dollar cash and cards is best. Always take more rather than less, as you don't want to spoil the trip by constantly feeling short of funds.

We do not recommend bringing travellers cheques as they are very difficult to change in country.

**CURRENCY EXCHANGE TIP:** Please be advised that slightly torn notes, notes that have been heavily marked or are faded may be difficult to exchange. It is best to bring notes in fairly good condition, in denominations lower than 100USD (or equivalent).

As currency exchange rates can fluctuate often we ask that you refer to the following website for daily exchange rates: [www.xe.com](http://www.xe.com)

## Emergency Fund

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Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD \$200 (or equivalent) as an 'emergency' fund, to be used when circumstances outside our control (ex. a natural disaster) require a change to our planned route. This is a rare occurrence!

## Departure Tax

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Ecuador: USD \$40.80

Many airline tickets already include this departure tax as part of the paid fare. Please check your ticket and ask at the airline counter when checking in for your flight.

## Tipping

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It is customary in Latin America to tip service providers such as waiters, at approximately 10%, depending on the service. Tipping is an expected - though not compulsory - component of your tour program and an expression of satisfaction with the persons who have assisted you on your tour. Although it may not be customary to you, it is of considerable significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels. There are several times during the trip where there is opportunity to tip the local guides or drivers we use. You may do this individually, or your CEO will offer to collect the money and tip as a group. Recommendations for tipping drivers and local guides would range from \$5-10 USD per day depending on the quality and length of the service; ask your CEO for specific recommendations based on the circumstances and culture.

Onboard the Galapagos yacht, tipping the Naturalist guide and boat crew is customary. There will be two envelopes presented at the end of the voyage, one for the guide and one for crew members. The recommended amount is \$12-15 USD per day from each traveller (\$5 USD for the guide and \$7-10 USD for the crew members). This is only a suggestion as we understand that tipping is a personal choice.

If at the end of your trek you felt your trekking guide and support team did an outstanding job, tipping is appreciated. The amount is entirely a personal preference, however as a guideline, we suggest each hiker contributes the following to a collective pool.

Inca Trail:

Head guide: 10-25 USD

Assistant guide: 5-12 USD

Your trekking crew: 40 USD

Lares Trek:

Head guide: 10-25 USD

Assistant guide: 4-10 USD

Your trekking crew: 35 USD

Also at the end of each trip if you felt your G Adventures CEO did an outstanding job, tipping is appreciated. The amount is entirely a personal preference, however as a guideline \$20-25 USD per person, per week can be used.

## Optional Activities

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Lima

- Lima Cooking Class (4hrs)

Ica

- Sandboarding in Ica (65PEN per person)

Paracas National Reserve

- Ballestas Islands Wildlife Tour

Nazca

- Flight over Nazca Lines

#### Arequipa

- Juanita Museum (60PEN per person)
- Arequipa City Tour

#### Chivay

- Hot Springs (15PEN per person)

#### Lake Titicaca

- Lake Titicaca Kayaking

#### Cusco

- Inka Museum (10PEN per person)
- Cusco City Tour (45PEN per person)
- Cusco Tourist Ticket (130PEN per person)
- Rainbow Mountain Hike - Full-day Trip
- Cusco Cooking Class

#### Ollantaytambo

- Ollantaytambo Storehouse Ruins and Hike

#### Santa Fé Island

- Snorkelling (Santa Fé)

#### Quito

- Quito City Tour and Equator
- Middle of the World (40-50USD per person)
- Quito City Tour (40-50USD per person)
- Teleférico (9USD per person)

#### Papallacta

- Papallacta Hot Springs - Full Day Trip (70-100USD per person)

#### Cotopaxi

- Cotopaxi Volcano - Full Day Trip

## Health

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Please note inoculations may be required for the country visited. It is your responsibility to consult with your travel doctor for up to date medical travel information well before departure.

You should consult your doctor for up-to-date medical travel information well before departure. We recommend that you carry a First Aid kit and hand sanitizers / antibacterial wipes as well as any personal medical requirements. Please be aware that quite often we are in remote areas and away from medical facilities, and for legal reasons our leaders are prohibited from administering any type of drug including headache tablets, antibiotics, etc. When selecting your trip please carefully read the brochure and itinerary and assess your ability to cope with our style of travel. Please refer to the Physical ratings for trip specific information. G Adventures reserves the right to exclude any traveller from all or part of a trip without refund if in the reasonable opinion of our CEO they are unable to complete the itinerary without undue risk to themselves and/or the rest of the group.

Please note your Adventure travels to high altitude. This is medically defined as anything over 8,000 feet (2,440 meters). Most people can travel to 8,000 feet with minimal effects. However, everyone reacts to altitude differently and altitude sickness can on set with some people irrespective of fitness and age. For details on how to best prepare and what to do in the unlikely event you are effected on your Adventure, please consult your physician.

## Safety and Security

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Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your CEO has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it is deemed necessary due to safety concerns. Your CEO will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy or explore at your leisure. While your CEO will assist you with options available in a given location please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgment when selecting an activity

in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions.

**Protests and Demonstrations-** Protests and demonstrations, even those that are well intended, have the potential to turn violent with no warning. Counter protests can also turn violent. Action by security forces to disperse demonstrators and protesters may occur at any time. If you are in an area where demonstrators or protesters are gathering, avoid the temptation of staying for a good photo opportunity and leave the area immediately.

Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards) have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our CEOs to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s).

Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk.

We take all prudent measures in relation to your safety. For ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling, please visit:

[www.gadventures.com/travel-resources/safety/](http://www.gadventures.com/travel-resources/safety/)

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## **Trip Specific Safety**

Care should be taken when wandering around on your own in both central Lima and in Quito, as some areas can be dangerous and pickpockets are daring.

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## **A Couple of Rules**

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter, and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of prostitutes is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our CEOs have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they use prostitutes.

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## **Travel Insurance**

**Travel Insurance:** Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your CEO, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy please bear in mind that all clients must have medical coverage and that we require a minimum coverage of USD 200,000 for repatriation and emergency rescue. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

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## **Planeterra Foundation - the non-profit partner of G Adventures**

Planeterra International Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to turning travel into impact by helping local communities earn an income from tourism. Planeterra connects underserved local communities to the benefits of tourism by developing and supporting small community-owned businesses. These businesses support Indigenous people, empower women, grant youth access to employment opportunities, and protect the environment. Planeterra also works to ensure these businesses have a thriving customer base by integrating their projects into G Adventures' itineraries globally.

G Adventures is Planeterra's largest corporate donor, covering all operating costs, so 100% of your donation will bring opportunity to people in need.

G Adventures Dollar-a-day Program - Make Every Day Count - Turn your travel into impact with [Planeterra Foundation](http://www.planeterra.org/).

Did you know? Most communities around the world do not benefit from tourism. Give back to the places you visit on your travels by creating opportunities for local people to earn an income, and protect the environment.

Make every day count by donating \$1/day for the length of your trip, and join us in empowering the communities you will visit when you travel. 100% of your donation goes directly to Planeterra projects.

## Feedback

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After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us that we'll give you 5% off the price of your next G Adventures trip if your feedback is completed on-line within 30 days of finishing your trip. Your tour evaluation will be e-mailed to you 24 hours after the conclusion of your trip. If you do not receive the tour evaluation link in the days after your tour has finished, please drop us a line at [customersolutions@gadventures.com](mailto:customersolutions@gadventures.com) and we will send it on to you.

## Newsletter

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Our adventure travel e-newsletter is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from G Adventures, subscribe at [www.gadventures.com/newsletters/](http://www.gadventures.com/newsletters/)

Stay current on how our company invests in our global community through our foundation – Planeterra. Sign up for [Planeterra's monthly news](#) to learn more about how to give back and support the people and places we love to visit.

## Minimum Age

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You must be 18 to travel unaccompanied on a G Adventures tour. For minors travelling with a guardian over 21 years old, the minimum age is 12.

## International Flights

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Check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.