



14 nights

📍 **\$7,295\*** p.p.

Departs: Apr. 20, 2020

Toronto - **\$7,295\*** p.p.

Vancouver - **\$7,795\*** p.p.

Group size: 30 maximum

 **Visits to:**

Lima – Cusco – Sacred Valley – Machu Picchu – Aguas Calientes – Cusco – Lima – Santiago – Valparaíso – Viña del Mar – San Pedro de Atacama

 **What's Included:**

- \* *Roundtrip airfare*
- Domestic flights
- Plaza Premium airport lounge pass
- Lima: two nights 4-star hotel accommodation
- Sacred Valley: two nights 4-star hotel accommodation
- Machu Picchu: one-night 4-star hotel accommodation
- Cusco: two nights 4-star hotel accommodation
- Excursion to the local Misminay Community, with Maras salt mines and Moray terraces
- Santiago: four nights 4-star hotel accommodation
- Two wine tastings incl. Maipo Valley Winery in Santa Rita
- San Pedro de Atacama: three nights 4-star hotel accommodation
- San Pedro de Atacama astronomical tour
- 14 breakfasts, seven lunches, one dinner
- Local English-speaking tour guide
- Private motor coach transportation
- Merit Travel tour host\*\*
- All taxes and gratuities\*\*\*

## HIGHLIGHTS OF PERU & CHILE

By land: Lima to Santiago

Discover the highlights of Peru and Chile with this comprehensive tour exploring the local culture and natural attractions. Start your tour in Peru, a fascinating country with incredible history, nature and an endearing hospitable culture. Discover spectacular scenery, learn of ancient civilizations and experience age-old traditions.

Visit the local Misminay community in the Sacred Valley where you will experience the Andean culture and participate in a cooking class, before visiting Machu Picchu. Continue to Chile's capital, Santiago, a city framed by the majestic Andes Mountain range. Amidst beautiful landscapes, learn about the Chilean cuisine. Visit a local vineyard and learn about the many varieties of wine that Chile proudly cultivates and exports globally. Continue to the Atacama Desert, a 1,000km stretch of land between the Pacific Ocean and the Andes Mountains, where you will find geysers, hot springs, salty basins and snow-capped volcanoes, as well as unique flora and fauna.

**Single supplements available!**  
**Call your local Merit Travel expert.**



ACTIVITY LEVEL:  
**SIGHT-SEEING**

#### APPROPRIATE FOR:

Travellers who are physically fit and comfortable with longer days of touring by transport and by foot and do not require mobility aids.

## Your Itinerary | Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner = (B, L, D)

### DAY 1 | Apr. 20, 2020 | Toronto/Vancouver - Lima

Depart Toronto/Vancouver for Lima.

### DAY 2 | Apr. 21, 2020 | Lima

Upon arrival, you will be met and transferred to your hotel.

*Accommodation at Jose Antonio Deluxe Hotel (2 nights)*

### DAY 3 | Apr. 22, 2020 | Lima (B)

After breakfast enjoy your morning at leisure.

In the afternoon join a city tour, visiting the modern and colonial parts of the city of Lima. The road passes a Huaca or sacred pre-Inca site, and stop at Parque del Amor (Lovers Park) in Miraflores for a magnificent view over the Pacific Ocean. The tour also includes visiting the Historic Centre based on the Main Square, where the Presidential Palace, the Archbishop's Palace, the Municipality of Lima and the Cathedral are located, as well as a one of the largest colonial-era convents.

### DAY 4 | Apr. 23, 2020 | Lima - Cusco - Sacred Valley (B, L)

After breakfast, you will transfer to the airport for your flight to Cusco. Upon arrival in Cusco transfer to the Sacred Valley for a tour to the Pisac Ruins and Pisac Market. Today you will set off for the Sacred

Valley of the Incas, heading towards the town of Pisac to tour its impressive archaeological sites, featuring incredible terraced hillsides and a high degree of urban planning. After the tour, you will descend to the town and spend time in the local market.

*Accommodation at Casa Andina Premium Valle Sagrado Hotel and Villas (2 nights)*

### DAY 5 | Apr. 24, 2020 | Sacred Valley (B, L)

Early breakfast at the hotel. Depart for a tour into the Maras salt mines and terraces before visiting the local Mismisay community, where you will experience authentic Andean culture.

Join a lunchtime cooking class and prepare a delicious traditional dish using only local products. Visit the town of Maras, where mines form terraces and lagoons, offering a mandatory spot for snapping amazing pictures.

Finally, you will visit the Moray agricultural terraces, which were used as a botanic laboratory by the Incas and from where you'll have views over Sacred Valley.

### DAY 6 | Apr. 25, 2020 | Sacred Valley - Machu Picchu - Aguas Calientes (B, L, D)

After breakfast you will transfer to the train station for your Vistadome train to Aguas Calientes, before visiting the spectacular site of Machu Picchu. Upon arrival, you will start the ascent to the ruins, which will be, without a doubt an unforgettable experience. We then make our way back down to Aguas Calientes for lunch at Café Inkaterre. Check in to your hotel and enjoy dinner with your group this evening.

*Accommodation at Casa Del Sol Boutique Hotel (1 night)*

### DAY 7 | Apr. 26, 2020 | Sacred Valley - Cusco (B)

After breakfast your morning is at leisure. Then board your Vistadome train to Cusco.

*Accommodation at Novotel Cusco (2 nights)*

### DAY 8 | Apr. 27, 2020 | Cusco (B)

After breakfast enjoy a city tour of UNESCO World Heritage-listed, Cusco and its archaeological sites. The excursion starts at Koricancha temple, an ancient Inca palace, where the Dominicans ordered a church to be built, which survives to this day.

Continue to the Main Square, where you will visit the cathedral, then climb to Sacsayhuaman Fortress, an impressive example of Inca military architecture and onto Kenko, where the sun, moon and stars were worshipped.

Afterwards visit Puca-Pucara, before visiting the Inka's Expression art workshop, where you will appreciate how different Peruvian natural products are used (such as plants, fruits, vegetables among others) and you will discover their nutritional, curative and cosmetic properties.

Your afternoon will be at leisure.

### DAY 9 | Apr. 28, 2020 | Cusco - Lima - Santiago (B)

This morning, transfer to the airport for your flights to Santiago, Chile (via Lima). Santiago, Chile's capital, framed by the majestic Andes Mountain range, and an important metropolis where the French classic architecture is combined with the baroque and colonial

Spanish architecture with modern tall buildings. Upon arrival at Santiago airport, transfer to your hotel.

**Accommodation at Hotel Atton el Bosque (3 nights)**

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**DAY 10 | Apr. 29, 2020 | Santiago (B, L)**

After breakfast enjoy a city tour of Santiago. You will begin with a visit to the presidential palace, La Moneda, which once housed the national mint. Explore Plaza de Armas, and see the cathedral, post office, the Palacio de la Real Audiencia, home to the National History Museum and the Casa Colorada, once the Spanish governor's residence. Pass by the Cerro San Cristóbal, an outpost of the mountains which towers over the city with a great white statue of the Virgin Mary crowning its summit. Your tour will end with a visit to the fashionable business districts of Providencia and Las Condes. Enjoy lunch at Restaurant Casa Vieja, located in the residential area of Las Condes with typical Chilean cuisine. Your afternoon is at leisure.

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**DAY 11 | Apr. 30, 2020 | Santiago - Valparaíso - Viña del Mar (B, L)**

After breakfast, your tour will depart from Santiago along the coastline (approx. 120km.) passing through the fertile Curacaví and Casablanca Valleys. Enroute, you will visit Viña del Mar and Valparaíso, a port city founded in the 16<sup>th</sup> century and declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Indulge in a delicious seafood lunch at Castillo del Mar Restaurant with your group, and enjoy a wine tasting at a local vineyard. We will then continue along this beautiful route in front of the sea to arrive at the city of Viña del Mar. We will see the picturesque Flower Clock and go through Peru Avenue with its traditional casino and Hotel Del Mar, founded in 1930, before passing by the Museum of Paleontology and Anthropology Fonck.

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**DAY 12 | May 1, 2020 | Santiago - Calama - San Pedro de Atacama (B)**

After breakfast, transfer from your hotel to the airport to board your flight to Calama. After arriving transfer to your hotel in San Pedro de Atacama.

Here you will visit the Atacama Desert with its innumerable geological wonders such as geysers, hot springs, salty basins and snow-capped volcanoes, as well as unique flora and fauna. From sunrise at the Tatio Geysers surrounded by jagged mountain peaks to unparalleled sunsets reflecting golden light over salty lagoons busy with Chilean Flamingos, San Pedro de Atacama will surely take your breath away.

In the afternoon, transfer to the Moon and Death Valley for a tour of Cordillera de la Sal (Salt Mountains), where you will see stone and sand formations and enjoy amazing views.

**Accommodation at Hotel Altiplanico (3 nights)**

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**DAY 13 | May 2, 2020 | San Pedro de Atacama (B, L)**

After breakfast, enjoy a full-day excursion to the Altiplanic Lagoons. Today's excursion will begin with a tour through the vast plain area, allowing you to reach the Gran Salar de Atacama where flamingos play.

Continue your trip to the beautiful Altiplanic Lagoons, which sit 4,500m above sea level. Enroute, we will see the town of Socaire, where shepherds and farmers cultivate the land using the old system of Andean terraces.

After lunch we return to San Pedro de Atacama.

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**DAY 14 | May 3, 2020 | San Pedro de Atacama (B)**

Today your tour will start very early to visit the higher geothermal field, the Tatio Geysers, located at 4,300m above sea level, and shooting up to 50 metres high. Enjoy a delicious breakfast prepared at the Geysers.

When returning, visit the village of Machuca, an ancient village with adobe houses, straw and cactus wood. You can also visit the church of St. Santiago, patron of the town, to admire its ancient architecture. Travel to an observatory to enjoy an evening of star-gazing, (weather permitting) and hot drinks.

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**DAY 15 | May 4, 2020 | San Pedro de Atacama - Calama - Santiago (B, L)**

After breakfast, transfer from your hotel in San Pedro de Atacama to the airport in Calama for your flight to Santiago.

Upon arrival transfer to your hotel for check-in and then enjoy an afternoon excursion to Maipo Valley for a tour, wine tasting and lunch, at Santa Rita Winery. Visit the legendary landmark of Don Paula Restaurant, an establishment declared a national monument due to its colourful past.

After the tour spend the remainder of your time in Santa Rita strolling the gorgeous gardens or observing the intriguing artifacts in the on-site Andean Museum. Return to your hotel in Santiago.

**Accommodation at Hotel Atton el Bosque (1 night)**

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**DAY 16 | May 5, 2020 | Santiago - Toronto/Vancouver (B)**

After breakfast, transfer from your hotel to the airport for your flight home.



## RESPONSIBILITY

Merit Travel Group Inc. doing business as Merit Travel, acts solely as agents for the Travel Service Suppliers such as hoteliers, airlines, ground service operators, bus operators, etc. who are providing their facilities as described in this brochure. We do our best to select such suppliers but exercise no control over them and cannot be held responsible for the failure of these suppliers to carry out any obligations. Any and all bookings made with these suppliers by us, for you, are subject to the terms and conditions of each and every such supplier. Supplier liability may also be limited by law, tariffs, or conditions set forth in their documentation, tickets, etc.

Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, Merit and its directors, officers, employees, affiliates, successors, assigns, agents and other representatives are not responsible for any and all claims for losses, damages (whether direct, indirect, special, punitive, or other consequential damages, lost profits or opportunities) delays, illness, injuries, inconvenience, loss of enjoyment, or anxiety (whether based in contract, tort, negligence, strict liability or otherwise, and even if Merit and the Travel Service Suppliers have been advised of the possibility of damages to such party or any other party) arising from:

- Fault or negligence or omissions on the part of the said travel service suppliers;
- Illness, theft, strikes, mechanical problems, quarantine, governmental intervention, weather conditions, acts of hostility or violence, and any other grounds beyond our control;
- Your failure to obtain passport, visas, other travel documents or inoculations
- Your failure to advise us the name of the traveller exactly as it appears on the passport;
- Your failure to report on time at an airport or ground transfer facility;
- Material damages, theft or other mysterious disappearances of your goods;
- Personal injuries or death;
- Force Majeure - an event(s) beyond our, or our supplier(s), reasonable control including, but not limited to, acts of God, strikes, lockout or other labour disputes or disruptions, wars, blockades, insurrections, riots, earthquakes, weather conditions, floods or acts of restraints imposed by governmental authorities.

## PRICING

All prices are per person in Canadian dollars unless otherwise noted. GST, HST and provincial taxes are applicable on tours as noted.

## INCREASE IN TOUR COSTS

Merit reserves the right to increase tour prices in the event of an increase in government and airport authority imposed taxes and fees, fuel and currency surcharges, supplier price increases, or any other cost increase. If the increase is greater than 7% of the tour cost, the client may cancel the booking within seven days of notification and obtain a full refund.

## PAYMENT SCHEDULE

A deposit of \$750 per person is required at the time of booking. Full and final payment is due 90 days prior to departure.

**Please note, some of our suppliers may require additional deposit or full payments at time of booking, pending seasonality. You will be advised of additional requirements at time of booking.**

## LIABILITY

Merit cannot assume responsibility for any costs incurred for any travel arrangements purchased separately from the Merit tour. Merit's responsibility shall extend only to the provisions of advice as to industry-standard or supplier recommended connections and check-in times. Provided Merit supplies such advice, they shall not be responsible for missed connections or departures, regardless of the cause.

## TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN (INSURANCE)

Trip cancellation and interruption insurance, medical and hospital insurance, baggage insurance, and various additional insurances are available and

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED. If you choose not to purchase insurance, you are required to sign an Insurance Waiver Form. Note that if you choose not to purchase insurance, you are fully liable for any and all penalties imposed as stated under Cancellation Policy on this page. Please speak to your representative at the time of making reservations about insurance.

## REFUNDS

The nature of travel involves risks and unpredictable weather and thus Merit cannot assure any departure or arrival times at any point of an itinerary. Your right to receive a refund is limited. There will be no discounts or monies refunded for any missed or unused services. Merit reserves the right to cancel the tour for any reason. Should this occur, a full refund will be made to the traveller.

## CANCELLATION POLICY

While Merit will do its utmost to minimize any penalties charged, there are irrecoverable costs associated with your tour. The following penalties will be considered the costs incurred with cancellation:

- 90 days or more prior to departure: Loss of total deposit.
- 89 – 60 days prior to departure: Loss of 50% of total tour cost.
- 59 days or less prior to departure: Loss of 100% of total tour cost.

**Cancellation penalties for some tours will vary and there may be additional penalties associated with the airfare. If so, these policies will be noted separately at time of booking and will prevail.**

## TOUR CHANGES

We reserve the right to substitute itineraries, hotels, airlines or vessels due to conditions beyond our control. In such cases we will do everything possible to ensure the locations visited, the excursions taken and the hotels offered are similar to the ones originally planned. Any change to itineraries will not result in eligibility for a refund.

## REVISION FEE

Changes to your tour reservation might not be possible. Should you request a change and we are able to accommodate it, you will be subject to any charges imposed by the airline or tour suppliers. In addition, we reserve the right to charge a \$50 revision fee for any change made after the deposit is paid. A change in name or departure date may constitute a cancellation, and the corresponding penalties may apply.

## PERSONAL DOCUMENTATION

All passengers travelling internationally must travel with a passport. Many countries require the passport to be valid for 6 months beyond the traveller's return date. Visas may be required for some destinations. It is the passenger's responsibility to obtain at the passenger's expense, all documentation required by all relevant authorities. In the event that the passenger does not possess the correct documentation, the air carrier has the right to refuse passage.

## DESCRIPTION

Every effort has been made to describe and produce the travel services and photographs as accurately as possible in the printed tour description. However we reserve the right to correct errors and we will make all reasonable efforts to inform you should any significant changes occur.

**Please note that the living standards and local conditions during your tour may be different from what you are accustomed to at home.**

## CONSENT

Your retention of tickets, reservations or bookings after issuance shall constitute your consent to the above terms.

If you encounter any concerns during your tour, please inform your local travel service provider. If the matter cannot be resolved, please inform Merit Travel in writing upon your return.