

[illegible]

PORT EXPLORER & SHOPPING GUIDE

Lima (Callao)

P E R U

GENERAL INFORMATION Lima is the capital of Peru and one of the largest cities in South America. With over 8 million people and a metropolitan population close to 10 million, 1/3 of the population of the country, Lima ranks among the top twenty largest cities in the world.

The city was founded on January 18, 1535 by the Spanish conquistador Francisco Pizarro following his conquest of the Inca Empire. Pizarro chose a site on the Pacific coast of Peru where the Lurin, Chillón and Rimac rivers converge. Pizarro originally named his new city “The City of Kings”...La Ciudad de los Reyes, but it quickly came to be called Lima. The city grew quickly as new settlers from Spain began to arrive to seek fortunes in the New World.

Two major earthquakes rocked Lima in the mid and late 1600s while another massive quake virtually leveled the city in the mid 1700s. The great liberators, José de San Martín and Simón Bolívar freed Lima and much of South America from Spanish rule in the 1820s. The city and the country as a whole suffered from political and economic turmoil for much of its post-colonial history. Today there remains a tremendous contrast between the graceful beauty of the colonial period architecture in the “Old City” (a World Heritage Site), the glimmer of Lima’s modern skyline and the harsh reality of the large shantytowns. Peru however, is a country rich with natural resources and potential and Lima is its center.

HISTORY

The Inca were a truly amazing people ... a coalition of tribes, a mighty empire that would last for barely a century. The Inca were a highly structured society with their king ruling through ritual, sacrifice and the worship of the sun-god. They developed extensive irrigation systems, were master stone masons and builders of megalithic stone fortifications, imposing temples and entire cities that are among some of the most studied and bewildering architecture on earth. Archeological engineers have yet to discover how the Inca, without iron tools, carved their massive stones to such exacting degrees and dimensions that no mortar was necessary to ensure structural integrity. Just as mystifying is the question of how the enormous stones were transported, often up incredibly steep mountainsides then hoisted perfectly into place. After all, the Incas had no draft animals other than the llama, no system of mechanical pulleys and no knowledge of the wheel.

The Inca had no written language yet they practiced highly sophisticated brain surgery that is a wonder to modern medicine. They bioengineered an amazing variety of corn, squash, peanuts, peppers, and over 200 different types of potatoes. Theirs was a socialist society without coin or currency yet the Inca had more gold and silver than all the crown-heads of Europe combined. That fact alone would be the seed of their destruction.

In 1532, symbolically wrapped in Queen Isabel's "Capitulación de Toledo" (Royal permission to conquer Peru), armed with a sword in one hand and the cross of the Roman Catholic Church in the other, Spanish conquistador Francisco Pizarro and his small band of soldiers came ashore on the Pacific coast of Peru. In the name of the Crown and the Pope, with absolution provided by





PLACES OF INTEREST

Dominican priest Vicente de Valverde, Pizarro proceeded to slay the Incas and capture for ransom their king, Atahualpa. When the great ransom was paid in gold and silver, Pizarro betrayed Atahualpa and ordered the king to be burned at the stake. The Dominican priest told the Inca king to submit to the Catholic Church and the Spanish Crown and his death sentence by fire would be commuted. Pizarro and the conquistadors destroyed the Inca Empire, killed or enslaved the people and plundered untold riches. The Dominican priest de Valverde kept his word to Atahualpa. The king was not publicly burned at the stake... he was garroted instead.

PLACES OF INTEREST

- 1 **Plaza Mayor** is the historic center of the colonial “Old City”. The Catholic Archbishop’s Palace, the Government Palace, the Cathedral and City Hall encircle the beautiful plaza.
- 2 The **San Francisco Monastery** was dedicated in 1673 and despite being damaged in the 1970 earthquake it remains a beautiful example of Colonial period architecture. The church served as Lima’s first cemetery and its catacombs are filled with the geometrically

stacked bones of thousands of Lima’s citizens.

- 3 **University Park** is a beautiful setting. Especially noteworthy is the building that was the original home for San Marcos University. Founded in 1551, it was the first university established in the Americas.
- 4 **Parque Del Amor** is a romantic setting popular with newlyweds and lovers. Overlooking the Pacific, the sunset views are beautiful.
- 5 The **Gold Museum** has an amazing collection of Peruvian gold and jewels. Weapons from the colonial period are also on display.
- 6 The **Larco Herrera Museum** has a large and extremely valuable collection of pottery created by tribes that pre-dated the Inca Empire.
- 7 The **Convent of San Pedro** was built in the classical baroque style by Jesuits in the early 1600s. The finely crafted alters are examples of highly skilled artisans.

- 8 **Casa Aliaga** is one of the most beautiful colonial mansions in Lima. The home was built in 1535 by one of Francisco Pizarro’s conquistadors.
- 9 The **Real Felipe Fortress** was built in the mid 1700s to protect the city from pirates. The fortress was the last stronghold to fall during Peru’s war for independence from Spain. Today the fort includes a military museum that portrays the history of Lima.
- 10 The **National Museum of Anthropology & Archaeology** is located in a beautiful house in which Simon Bolivar and Jose Martin stayed during Peru’s war for independence. On exhibit are collections from the many different cultures that have come and gone during Peru’s long history.
- 11 The **Pedro de Osma Museum of Colonial Art** was originally the home of Don Pedro de Osma. It was built in the early 1900s. This is a private museum that has on display pieces of intricate stone and metalwork, sculptures, paintings and furniture that Don Pedro collected from throughout Peru.
- 12 The **Taurino Museum** has on exhibit memorabilia from the history of bullfighting in Lima. Peru’s bullfighting arena is the oldest in South America.
- SHORE EXCURSIONS To make the most of your visit to Lima, Callao and surrounding areas we suggest you take one of our organized Shore Excursions. For information concerning tour content and pricing, consult your Shore Excursion Brochure, Shore Excursion TV Channel or contact the Shore Excursion Desk. When going ashore, guests are advised to take with them only the items they need and to secure any valuables.
- LOCAL CUSTOMS Bargaining: Most vendors enjoy bargaining. Tipping: If a service charge is not included, 10% is a good guideline.
- LOCAL CUISINE AND DRINK SPECIALTIES A few traditional Peruvian dishes include: Aji de gallina - spicy chicken. Chupe de camarones - shrimp soup. Cebiche - seafood marinated in lemon juice. Pachamanca – a vegetables and meat stew cooked in earthenware. Pisco is a fine liqueur and Peru’s national drink.
- SHOPPING FACILITIES It is absolutely illegal to buy or sell any piece of antiquity. Peru is justly famous for the talent of its artisans and some of the works that they produce are truly remarkable reproductions of ancient artifacts. If a vendor offers an “authentic Pre-Colombian” figurine or piece of art...caveat emptor...it is fake. Artisans from throughout the country come to Lima to sell their amazing products. Special stores called “artesanales” offer a wide variety of their beautiful works at very reasonable prices. The downtown Plaza de Armas and the Inka Market in Miraflores are two of the most popular shopping venues.
- LOCAL CURRENCY Peru’s currency is called the “nuevo sol”. ATMs are generally available.

- POST OFFICE AND TELEPHONE FACILITIES The Main Post Office or Serpost is located at La Marina Avenue 2155, San Miguel Dial the following access numbers to use a personal calling card: AT&T: 0.800.50288 MCI: 0.800.50010
- TOURIST INFORMATION Tourist Information Office is located at Psj. Los Escribanos 145 Main Square
- TRANSPORTATION Taxis are generally available near the pier.
- USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES The ancient language of the Incas is called Quechua. The language is still spoken by many Peruvians. There was no written form during the days of the Inca Empire yet numerous Quechua words have passed into English such as; gaucho, coca, puma, condor and llama.
- Yes - Ari
No - Mana
Hello - Rimaykullayki
Goodbye - Rikunakusun
Please - Allichu
Thank you - Añay
You’re welcome - Ni imamanta