

## TO CUSCO WITHOUT THE CANYON

### DAY 1: Lima To Paracas

- 6:30 - 7:00am** Depart Lima - We pick up directly from hostels and hotels. If staying in an Airbnb just email us. Your booking confirmation (ticket) will show you your exact pick-up time (depends on where you are staying!)
- 8:30 - 9:30am** We stop for a unique breakfast, straight from the bread ovens of MIRASUR – Enjoy some of the freshest baked bread in Peru and watch the local horses as they show the traditional dance of CABALLOS DEL PASO - yes, the horses dance!
- 12:00 - 1:00pm** FREE tour of the Secret Slave Tunnels - Exclusive Hop Stop at the Hacienda San Jose in Chincha to explore the underground tunnels, as well as learning about the history of the ex-sugar plantation and the tunnels that lay beneath.
- 2:00pm** Arrive Paracas - A beautiful small fishing town by the sea.

**Things To Do** Rent quad bikes or bicycles and explore the reserve, learn how to kite surf, take a long walk on the beach and enjoy some ceviche by the sea, or familiarize yourself with local knowledge and pay a visit to the Paracas Museum.

**Where To Stay** Los Frayles is a beautiful hotel with a pool, free Wi-Fi and private bathrooms for all rooms. Alternatively, if a hostel is more your scene, check out Kokopelli, which is widely believed to be the best hostel in Paracas with a swimming pool and a small bar.

**Insider Tip** For those very short on time, you can take the 6am Express bus from Lima to Paracas, do the Ballestas Islands OR the National Reserve, and then take the 1pm bus from Paracas to Huacachina on the same day.

### DAY 2: Paracas To Huacachina

- 8:00 - 10:00am** EXTRA Ballestas Islands Tour - See the Poor Man's Galapagos and get up close and personal with wildlife such as penguins, sea lions and plenty of other animals in their natural habitat.
- What To Bring** A sun hat, windbreaker and a camera for all those perfect shots!
- 11:00am** FREE Paracas National Reserve Tour - One of South America's biggest protected desert reserves and the first of its kind in Peru.
- What You'll See** Amazing views of the desert meeting the coastline and the unique red beach made up of ruby red sand and formed by natural minerals.
- 1:00pm** Depart Paracas – Meeting point at Los Frayles hotel.
- Important Note** Please arrive 15 minutes before the bus departs and be sure to bring all your luggage to the bus
- 2:15pm** Arrive in Huacachina – The only desert oasis in South America.

**Important Note** Due to the size of the town, we do not pick up or drop off at hotels and hostels here. The central meeting point is Wild Rover hostel.

- 4:00 - 6:00pm** EXTRA Dunebuggy/Sandboarding Tour – Fly up the slopes in a dunebuggy, and sandboard down the biggest dunes in South America

**What To Wear & Bring** Sunscreen, light clothes, sneakers and camera

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### DAY 3: Huacachina To Nazca To Puno

**1:00pm** Depart Huacachina – Meeting point is Wild Rover Hostel.

**Important Note** Please arrive 15 minutes before the bus departs and be sure to bring all your luggage to the bus.

**1:15pm** FREE Pisco Vineyard Visit - Try lots of free samples of Pisco, the national drink of Peru and learn all about how it is made, from grape to bottle!

**5:30pm** FREE Nazca Lines Viewing Tower Stop - See 3 of the mysterious and world-famous Nazca Lines for free!

**6:00pm** Dinner stop - Nazca

**7:00pm** Depart Nazca

### DAY 4: Arequipa To Puno To Cusco

**9:30am** FREE Lagunillas Mirador Viewpoint - Oversee the stunning Lake Titicaca with its four small islands at 4.174 m above sea level, making it the highest navigable lake in the world.

**11:00am** Driver stop/ bus swap – travelers heading into Puno will hop into a smaller vehicle that will quickly and easily transport you to Puno, just an hour away!

**1:00pm** Arrival in Puno - Gateway to the highest navigable lake in the world!

**What To Do** Tours of Lake Titicaca and the legendary man-made floating islands, or check out the Sillustani burial towers.

**Traveler Tip** The altitude here is high, so make sure to drink plenty of water and stay away from heavy food.

**4:30 - 6:30pm** EXTRA Floating Islands of Uros Tour (2 hrs) - These man-made islands are home to the Uros tribe. Climb aboard and learn about the history from the locals themselves.

**9:30pm** Depart Puno – pick up is from your hotels and hostels within the central city zone. Please be at your dedicated meeting point at least 15 minutes in advance.

**Note** 2-hour, full day and 2 day/1-night homestay Lake Titicaca Tours available. For the longer tours, be sure to update your itinerary so you can fit these in.

### DAY 5: Arrive To Cusco

**6:00am** Arrives Cusco - Hotel/hostel drop-off