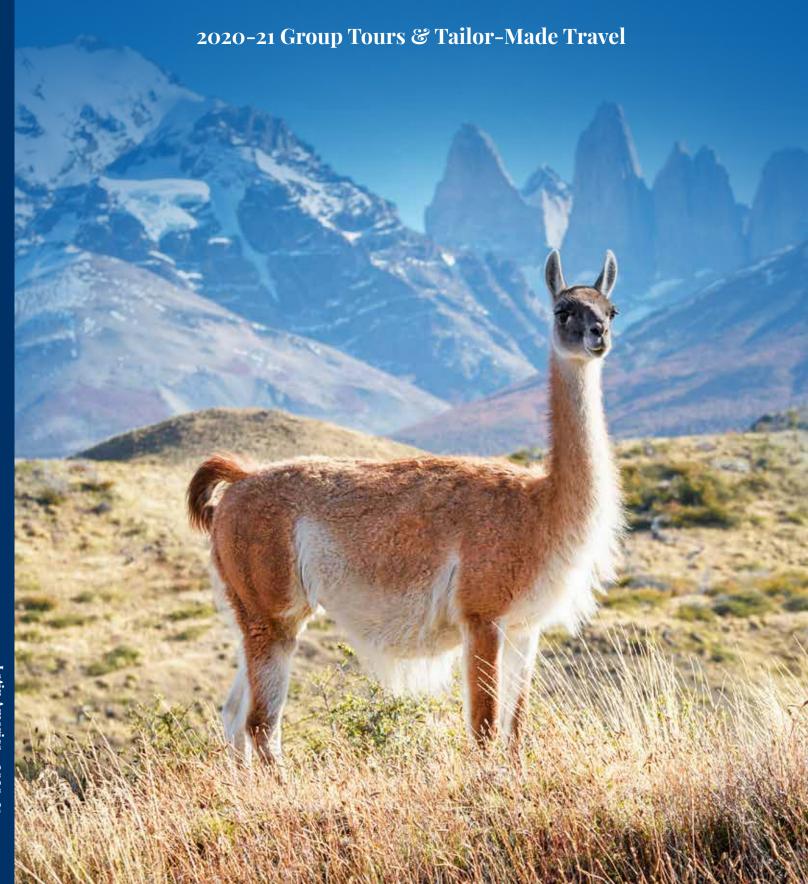
# COX & KINGS EST ¥ 1758

# LATIN AMERICA







# Inspiring travel for over 260 years

In an age that has witnessed an explosion in the popularity of travel, when new travel companies appear and disappear with bewildering frequency, Cox & Kings is, above all else, a travel company you can trust. Our experience, knowledge, service and business ethics are all underpinned by more than 260 years of heritage.

Cox & Kings' illustrious history is extraordinary, not just in its longevity but in how it has reinvented itself as the world around it has changed. You can read more about our company's story online at CoxandKings.co.uk/history.

A common strand running through the entire history is the spirit of innovation, which has remained a driving force for the business to this day. Our company may be old but it's full of youthful energy.

We are proud that we continue to build on the tradition of high quality service, attention to detail and innovation that made our founder, Richard Cox, so successful 260 years ago. We very much hope that this brochure will inspire and that you will entrust your next adventure to Cox & Kings.

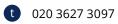
The Team at Cox & Kings

# Why entrust your holiday to Cox & Kings?

- Our extraordinary heritage founded in 1758
- Award-winning holidays
- Big company value & small company service
- The expert advice of your personal travel consultant
- Equal expertise at organising small group tours & private tailor-made travel
- The best guides to bring a destination to life

#### What we offer to Latin America

- · Private tailored travel
- Small group tours
- Special group tours for solo travellers
- Luxury train journeys
- · Multi-country tours
- Expedition cruises
- Family adventures





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Superior tour • 15 days & 12 nights

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Superior tour • 16 days & 13 nights

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Luxury tour • 11 days & 8 nights

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Standard • 13 days & 10 nights

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Superior tour • 15 days & 12 nights

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Superior tour • 18 days & 15 nights

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### Standard tour • 19 days & 16 nights

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Solo Travellers tour • Standard tour • 14 days & 12 nights

#### **Central America**

#### 158 Splendours of Central America

Standard tour • 19 days & 17 nights



Designed by Experts

#### Small Group Sizes

We keep our groups compact and manageable, with an average group size of 14 and a maximum of 26 (a maximum of 18 on Solo Travellers tours).

#### • Local Tour Managers / Guides

We employ local tour managers and / or guides for their in-depth knowledge of the places, people and culture, which in turn supports the local community.

#### • Excellent Value for Money

For those seeking a premium touring experience, comparing all inclusions, Cox & Kings tours offer superb value for money.

#### • High Quality Accommodation

We take great care in our selection of accommodation. Typically, we feature welllocated, 4- and 5-star character hotels.

#### C&K Signature Experiences

Each tour includes a number of exceptional experiences, revealing hidden wonders and cultural secrets.

#### · All Entrance Fees Included

All sightseeing entrance fees included as well as local taxes, unless stated otherwise.

#### • Balanced Pace

Opportunities to relax or explore independently are built into most tours.

#### Tailored to You

We are delighted to organise extensions before or after your tour, as well as room and flight upgrades.

#### Flight Flexibility

Flights are included as standard with the option to choose an alternative airline (where available), add regional flights or join the tour on a land-only basis.

#### Solo Travellers Tours

This brochure includes a selection of tours specially created for individual travellers (see tours on pages 30 and 142 for further details).

#### • 24-Hour Emergency Support

While you are away you will have 24hour phone numbers for both our local representatives and our UK emergency phone.

#### • Full Holiday Protection

We are members of AITO and ABTA, our air holidays are fully ATOL protected and we follow British Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) advice regarding destination safety (see pages 162-166 for details).

Please see page 5 for a list of all the group tours featured in this brochure. If you would like to find out more about how our holidays operate, please refer to Cox & Kings Holidays Explained on pages 170-171 of this brochure.



# **Private Travel**

### Tailored for You

#### • 100% Flexibility

All our itineraries can be tailored to suit your needs, or we can create an itinerary for you entirely from scratch, no matter how complex your requirements.

#### • Planned by Experts

Throughout the planning process you will be guided by your personal travel consultant, who will design an itinerary around your particular interests and requirements.

#### Support on the Ground

At each new destination on your journey, you will be welcomed by a Cox & Kings representative who will accompany you to your hotel and ensure you are happy with all the arrangements.

#### Private Car Travel

For road journeys, you will typically be driven by private car, allowing the flexibility to make stops en route. Where suitable, we can arrange car hire.

#### Private Guides

An English-speaking local guide will accompany most sightseeing excursions, so you can ask as many questions as you like, based on your particular interests.

#### • C&K Signature Experiences

From market tours and cooking classes to helicopter rides and glacier hikes, we can arrange a whole variety of experiences.

#### • Wide Choice of Accommodation

Whether it's a sophisticated city centre hotel or a 'back-to-nature' jungle lodge, we can cater to all tastes and a range of budgets.

#### Multi-Country Itineraries

We are experts at combining multiple countries in a single journey.

#### • Family Holidays

We arrange seamless itineraries that include experiences to inspire older and younger generations alike.

#### Private Groups

If you are a member of a club, society or simply a group of friends with a common interest, we can create an itinerary to suit the particular interests, dates and budget of the group.

#### • 24-Hour Emergency Support

While you are away you will have 24-hour phone numbers for both our local representatives and our UK emergency phone.

#### • Full Holiday Protection

We are members of AITO and ABTA, our air holidays are fully ATOL protected and we follow British Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) advice regarding destination safety (see pages 162-166 for details).

If you would like to find out more about how our holidays operate, please refer to Cox & Kings Holidays Explained on pages 170-171 of this brochure. There is also a wealth of additional information about the countries featured in this brochure in the Latin America sections of our website, reached via the 'Destinations' link. Please visit CoxandKings.co.uk

# Tailor-made Travel

Cox & Kings has been organising private tailor-made travel for generations. All our expert travel consultants are regional specialists with a wealth of first-hand travel experience.

They will listen to your requirements and then design an itinerary tailored to suit your particular interests, no matter how complex or unique they may be.

By its nature, even the best-planned travel has a degree of unpredictability. Aside from our expert planning and our network of carefully selected representatives around the world, one of the great benefits of travelling with Cox & Kings is what happens in the event of the unexpected. If a flight is cancelled, medical assistance is required, or a strike affects local services, the peace of mind that comes from the support we provide to sort out the necessary arrangements is priceless.



Iguaçu Falls, Brazil

#### **Family Adventures**

Cox & Kings family holidays are ideal for families seeking adventure and discovery without compromising on comfort and peace of mind. All families are unique, so the ideas we have put together in our Family Adventures range are intended purely as suggestions – our specialist travel consultants are experts in designing holidays completely tailored to each family's interests, ages and varying spirit of adventure. In this brochure we have included some ideas for adventures in Latin America. To see a full list of all our suggestions, however, please visit CoxandKings.co.uk/family.

#### Slow-paced Travel

If you have the time, slow-paced travel can be exceptionally rewarding. Visiting fewer places and spending longer in each allows you to immerse yourself into local culture, gaining a deeper understanding of the way of life, the food, the local issues and the environment. Venturing off the beaten track with a guide, exploring on foot away from tourist sites and trying your hand at activities with local people can bring many joyful surprises and provide an authentic experience of the country. Our travel consultants delight in organising easier-paced, less conventional itineraries to fit in with particular interests.

#### **Adventurous Honeymoons & Special Occasions**

If your idea of the trip of a lifetime extends beyond the confines of a beach resort, Cox & Kings' travel consultants offer you a wealth of experience and ideas for combining cultural exploration and wildlife encounters with a dash of adventure, as well as some well-deserved down-time. If you are planning a honeymoon, a special anniversary holiday, or the journey of a lifetime to mark retirement, we pride ourselves on attention to detail and personal service, both at the planning stage and during the holiday itself, to make the experience carefree and unforgettable.

#### **Private Groups**

Whether you are a member of a club or society, or you want to organise a trip for a group of like-minded friends, Cox & Kings has years of experience at researching and creating tours for groups of people with specific interests. We can source the best local guides for a particular subject, provide access to businesses and institutions not usually open to the public and suggest the most suitable hotels in terms of location, costs and services. In essence, we take all the stress out of arranging a private group holiday.

# Travel Inspiration - Online

This brochure contains a wealth of information about our tours and tailor-made travel options in Latin America. The world keeps turning, however, and for the very latest information about our holidays and destinations, or inspiration about where you could visit next, there are a number of Cox & Kings resources available to you online.

For us, travel is all about experiencing and understanding cultures and nature. With that in mind, we are constantly on the lookout for interesting television programmes, films, books, websites, recipes and exhibitions that relate to the destinations we cover, which we share with our online followers to provide inspiration and stimulation when considering future travel plans.



#### The Cox & Kings Website

The Cox & Kings UK website is found at **CoxandKings.co.uk**. In addition to the information found in our brochures, you can find extra itineraries, hotels and activities; up-to-date prices and special offers; live group tour availability and booking; country guides full of images, videos and detailed destination information; and our seasonal travel guide for those who know when they want to travel, but would like some inspiration about where.

#### **Email Newsletters**

If you would like to be among the first to hear our latest news, you can subscribe to receive our regular email newsletters at **CoxandKings.co.uk/publications/newsletter**. These will keep you up to date with new product launches and special offers, as well as providing travel inspiration if you have yet to decide where to take your next adventure. From time to time we also offer tickets to events and tip you off about television programmes and films that are relevant to travel.

#### **Compass Online**

CoxandKings.co.uk/compass, the online sister of our acclaimed *Compass* magazine, is a treasure trove of articles, blogs, competitions and destination guides in which you can find travel features penned by professional journalists, Cox & Kings' clients and our own staff. There are also interviews with well-known travellers plus our 'One Giant Leap' feature, in which personalities from Raymond Blanc to Wilbur Smith recount their first experiences of being abroad.

#### Social Media

Follow us on **Facebook** and **Twitter** (both @coxandkingsUK) for an entertaining combination of photography and comments; the latest news from Cox & Kings; links to interesting travel articles; news about TV programmes, films and other travel-related cultural events; plus fun competitions and some light-hearted exchanges. For photographic inspiration, try **Instagram** (coxandkings\_uk) while our **YouTube** channel showcases inspirational videos of destinations around the world and introduces some of our expert tour leaders.

# When To Go

Latin America's weather and seasons can vary greatly given the sheer size and geographical diversity of the region. Many of the destinations can be visited year-round and travelling 'out of season' can benefit from fewer crowds, better chances of spotting rare wildlife or more colourful scenery. Below are the draws of some of the continent's highlights during different times of the year.



#### 1 Costa Rica

This tropical paradise can be enjoyed all year round. Landbased wildlife such as monkeys and sloths are more prevalent during the dry season (December – April), whereas the green season (May – October) has fewer crowds and is the best time to spot turtles in Tortuguero.





#### Salar de Uyuni

Between the months of May and November, the salt flats are a surreal white dry expanse. From January to April they can get covered in a thin sheet of rainwater, and turn into a giant mirror reflecting the blue sky and making the horizon disappear.



#### 5 Atacama Desert

Atacama's year-round dry climate is largely invariable. Nights are cooler due to altitude, and clear skies lend themselves to spectacular sunsets across barren landscapes and mesmerising stargazing. There are fewer tourists in early autumn (September – October) and late summer (March – April).



#### Galapagos Islands

Wildlife viewings are spectacular year-round, with sea mammals and land birds more active during the dry season (May – December) and greater numbers of land animals in the warmer rainy season (January – April). Visitor numbers at each site are strictly regulated and overcrowding is not an issue.



### 6 Patagonia

Patagonian weather is most favourable from October to March with spring blooms, longer days, and greater chances of spotting wildlife. The auburn shades of autumn (mid-March – April) are utterly breathtaking, while the winter freeze intensifies the beauty of the landscape.



#### Machu Picchu

The Peruvian Andes get less rainfall between April and October, offering better photo opportunities of the iconic citadel, although the site is no less magnificent throughout the rest of the year. From June to September, days are driest and brighter – best for undertaking the Inca Trail.



### Buenos Aires

Argentina's elegant capital can be visited year-round, either in the peak summer heat (December – February) or in the winter chill. Spring (September – November) and autumn (March – May) offer pleasant daytime temperatures, fewer crowds and a display of colourful foliage along its grand avenues.



climate with less rainfall between celebrations in February or March. fireworks over Copacabana also



# **HONDURAS**

**NICARAGUA** 

**PERU** 

CHILE



**PARAGUAY** 

**URUGUAY** 

**BOLIVIA** 

**ARGENTINA** 

#### Pantanal

Heavy rains between November and March form freshwater lagoons populated by jabiru storks, egrets and herons. From April onwards, the waters start to recede and wildlife returns to the emerging plains. Between July and October, ponds dry out and birds don beautiful plumage and breed.



### **BRAZIL**

The Iguazú Falls are round. The waters reach their peak in the hot and rainier summer months (December - February) splendour in the drier months.



# 10 Iguazú Falls

spectacular all year but hardly lose their



#### 11 The Amazon

The Amazon is hot and humid throughout the year. The high water levels during the wetter months (December - May) allow better accessibility deeper into the rainforest. The 'drier' season (June - December) offers greater birdspotting opportunities and higher concentrations of wildlife.



#### 12 Yucatan Peninsula

The dry season (November - April) is best for calm waters along the coast and for visits to the ruins of the interior. Heavy showers between May and October tend to fall in the afternoons leaving plenty of sunshine during the day. The Caribbean is best avoided in September and October, when tropical storms may occur.









# Peru & Bolivia

Group tours • Tailor-made travel • River cruises • Rail journeys



Peru offers a compelling combination of stunning scenery and fascinating history. This is a country where the Inca culture is still very much present in the wonderfully preserved ancient sites, the Quechua language and the colourful weaving of the Andean people.

In Bolivia, explore Unesco-listed colonial buildings, dramatic mountain cities, the world's largest salt flats and venture into the Bolivian Amazon. What's more, it's easy to combine a trip to Peru and Bolivia with other countries for the ultimate South America adventure.

	Discover Peru		Small group & private tours
14	Lima, Arequipa, Paracas & the	24	Train to Machu Picchu • Group or
	Nazca Lines		private
15	Colca Canyon & Lake Titicaca	26	Train to Machu Picchu extensions
16	Cuzco, the Sacred Valley &	28	Peru & Galapagos: Conquistadores,
	Machu Picchu		Incas & Islands • Group or private
17	Trains to Machu Picchu	98	A Taste of South America • Group
18	Peru luxury rail journeys		or private
19	Peruvian Amazon & river	102	A Journey through the Andes •
	cruises		Group or private
20	Northern Peru	104	Grand Tour of South America •
21	Peru & beyond – suggested		Group or private
	itineraries	30	Treasures of Peru • Solo Travellers
22	Experiences in Peru	32	A Belmond Andean Explorer Rail
			Journey • Private
	Discover Bolivia	33	Peru in Luxury • Private
38	La Paz & surrounds, Sucre & Potosí,		
	Lake Titicaca, Salar de Uyuni &		Places to stay - our suggestions
	Altiplano	34	Belmond Peru hotels
39	Experiences in Bolivia	35	Peru & Bolivia hotel collection

#### Climate

The dry season in Peru runs between April and October, when days are sunny and warm. Spring and autumn can be quite mixed, with plenty of sunny days but a chance of rain. The Bolivian dry season, which falls between May and November, is the best time to visit. For both countries, nights can be cold all year round due to the altitude.

#### Cuzco, Peru

	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	s	0	N	D
Α	17	17	17	18	18	18	17	18	18	19	19	18
В	4	4	4	3	0	-2	-2	-1	1	3	3	4
C	153	136	120	46	8	2	4	8	23	40	68	116

#### La Paz, Bolivia

	J	F	М	Α	M	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	13	13	13	13	13	12	12	13	14	15	15	14
В	2	2	1	0	-3	-5	-5	-4	-2	0	1	2
c	130	102	81	32	15	4	5	14	32	35	50	100

Key: A: Maximum average temperature (C) B: Minimum average temperature (C) C: Average rainfall (mm)

Inspired to venture further afield? Browse our website to discover additional destinations, places to stay and itineraries; or speak to our Latin America experts.



020 3627 3097



CoxandKings.co.uk

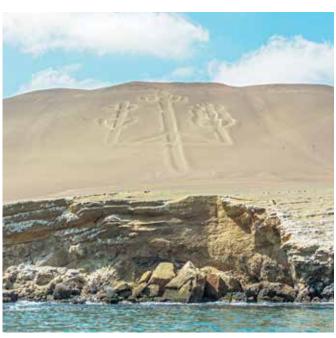
# Discover Peru

#### Lima

# Colonial history • Excellent museums • Innovative gourmet cuisine

Founded by the Spanish conquistadores on the Pacific coast, Lima was the wealthiest city in the Americas for more than 300 years. Today, this bustling modern city retains a large colonial heritage of fine churches, plazas and beautiful mansions.

Sightseeing highlights include the San Francisco monastery, famous for its catacombs, and Casa Aliaga, a historic colonial house (see page 22). Excellent museums, such as the Larco Museum and the Enrico Poli Private Collection, house the treasures of various pre-Hispanic cultures. Learn how to make *ceviche*, a delicious national dish of raw fish marinated in fresh lemon juice, or sample gourmet Peruvian cuisine in an increasing number of highly recognised restaurants in the residential area of San Isidro and the upmarket Miraflores.



Candelabrum, Paracas National Park

# Arequipa

Stunning setting beneath El Misti volcano • Colonial churches  $\mathcal E$  convents • Inca ice maidens

Lying at the foot of the snow-capped El Misti volcano, Arequipa is perhaps the most strikingly beautiful city in Peru. It is often referred to as the White City, with leafy squares, fine colonial architecture and many old and interesting churches built of sillar, a pearly-white volcanic stone. Highlights include La Compañia church and the Santa Catalina convent, a walled city within the city itself with beautiful courtyards and colourful buildings. Wander through its narrow, twisting, cobbled streets and try snacks and pastries baked by the nuns. Arequipa also has a fascinating small museum displaying the bodies of Inca sacrifices found frozen on the summits of nearby mountains (see page 22).



### Paracas & the Nazca Lines

Boat trip to the Ballestas islands • Mysterious desert drawings

Paracas, in Peru's southern coastal desert, can be reached in a couple of hours by road from Lima. There are some excellent hotels for relaxation in the sunny climate. It is also possible to explore the nearby desert nature reserve or take a boat trip to the Ballestas islands, home to large numbers of seabirds, including Peruvian boobies, cormorants and Humboldt penguins, as well as sea lions.

Further south, discover the mysterious Nazca Lines, etched into the dry desert more than 1,500 years ago. There are many theories about the exact origin and purpose of these bizarre lines that form geometric shapes and the outlines of animals such as condors and monkeys. The sheer size of these ancient creations can be best appreciated on a scenic light aircraft overflight arranged from Pisco airport (see page 22).



Plaza de Armas, Arequipa



Andean condor, Colca Canyon



Reed boats, Lake Titicaca

# Colca Canyon

Dramatic scenery • Thermal springs • Andean Condor spotting

The Colca Canyon, one of the deepest in the world, makes for an ideal stop on the way between Arequipa and Lake Titicaca. It is an area of outstanding scenic beauty with huge patchworks of pre-Inca terracing set against the backdrop of distant snow-capped volcanoes.

Unspoilt Andean villages lie on both sides of the canyon, inhabited by the Cabana and Collagua people. The valley has many thermal springs, with some hotels offering private facilities for guests - the perfect way to relax after a day of exploration. The Colca Canyon offers superb opportunities for spotting the Andean condor at very close range, with a number of scenic lookouts on the rim of the canyon.

# Lake Titicaca

Striking lake & altiplano scenery • Boat trips to floating islands • Local fishing & farming communities

One of the world's highest navigable lakes, the serene and vast Lake Titicaca straddles the border between Bolivia and Peru. Its dark-blue waters are home to traditional indigenous communities and islands such as the floating Uros, made entirely from totora reed.

Visit the Sillustani stone burial towers or take a boat to Taquile island, where fishermen and weavers maintain their ancient trades. Close to Puno, modern hotels offer panoramic views, while further away are intimate lodges, including the idyllic Suasi Lodge and the luxurious Titilaka (see page 36). The Sun and Moon islands on the Bolivian side of the lake can also be visited as a day trip or as an overnight stay en route to La Paz.

#### A suggested itinerary...

#### **Classic Peru**

11 days & 8 nights from £1,995 Category • Standard

This introductory private tour of Peru includes the country's most celebrated sights.

#### Days 1-2: Fly to Lima

Fly to Lima direct with British Airways (Apr - Oct). Stay two nights and take a city tour, including the colonial centre. (N)

Day 3: Fly to Cuzco • Sacred Valley

Fly to Cuzco. Transfer to the Sacred Valley via the colourful Pisac market and stay for 2 nights. (B)

Day 4: Sacred Valley / Ollantaytambo

Day at leisure or an optional visit to Ollantaytambo, Maras and Moray. (B)

Day 5: Machu Picchu

Train to Machu Picchu. Tour the ruins and stay overnight. (B, D)

Day 6: Cuzco

Afternoon train to Cuzco for a 2-night stay. (B)

Day 7: Cuzco

Morning tour of the city. Optional visit to nearby ruins or a local museum. (B)

Davs 8-9: Puno

Cross the altiplano by road or train to Puno and stay for 2 nights. Visit Lake Titicaca and the Uros reed islands. (B, L)

#### Days 10-11: Fly home

Fly home, arriving the following day. (B) (N)

Guideline Prices (incl. flights) Low season from: £1,995 (Jan - Mar) High season from: £2,195 (May - Oct)

Tour code: CPE





Plaza de Armas, Cuzco



The Sacred Valley

### Cuzco & Surrounds

#### Colonial & Inca architecture • Stay in historic mansions

Once a capital of the mighty Inca empire, Cuzco is a charming Andean city and the departure point for Machu Picchu and the Sacred Valley. Highlights include the main square, the cathedral with valuable masterpieces from the renowned Cuzco school of art, the artisan district of San Blas and the Temple of the Sun (Koricancha) with its original Inca walls. There are fascinating museums, such as the Pre-Columbian Art Museum, excellent Novoandina restaurants and opportunities to stay in converted colonial houses and monasteries.

Overlooking the city are the impressive ruins of Sacsayhuaman, a former ceremonial centre with enormous stones carved and fitted to incredible precision. The annual Inti Raymi sun festival is held here on 24 June.

# The Sacred Valley

#### Inca ruins and terraces • Traditional markets

Located between Cuzco and the Unesco-listed sanctuary of Machu Picchu, the Sacred Valley of the Incas is an area of outstanding natural beauty set against the backdrop of the Andes mountains. There are many sites of cultural and historical interest such as the circular terraces of Moray, the dazzling Maras saltpans and the Inca fortress of Ollantaytambo, where the Spanish conquistadors once lost a major battle.

First-class hotels, many with excellent spas, make the region ideal for combining exploration and relaxation. The pleasant climate and beautiful scenery create the perfect setting for soft adventure activities such as hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking and lake kayaking.



Machu Picchu

# Machu Picchu

#### Impressive Inca citadel • Orchids & birds

One of the new Seven Wonders of the World, this spectacular Inca citadel has remarkably well-preserved terraces, temples and dwellings. Situated on top of a mountain, high above the Urubamba river, Machu Picchu can only be reached by train and a bus up a serpentine road, or via a guided trek. The ruins' natural setting was as important to the site as the ancient structures themselves, with the sun rising and setting behind soaring sacred peaks on important days of the Inca calendar.

A guided tour provides a deeper insight into the history of the Lost City of the Incas. Stroll along stairways carved from solid rock and among more than 200 structures of perfectly chiselled unmortared stone. To preserve the ancient citadel, the flow of tourists is regulated and booking a second entry in advance is recommended for those wishing to revisit.

### C&K Recommends...

#### Day hikes around Machu Picchu

Visits to Machu Picchu can be combined with hikes on nearby trails for alternative views of the impressive site below. The Sun Gate (Inti Punku), positioned so that the sun passes through when rising over the citadel, is reached via a 60- to 90-minute trail climbing through agricultural terraces and along Inca stone paths. For those with a good level of fitness and a head for heights, a steep 1-hour hike up the iconic green mountain spike of Huayna Picchu provides spectacular views of the ruins and fantastic bird's-eye vistas. Spaces are limited and advance booking is required. Meanwhile, at 3,000 metres above sea level, the Machu Picchu Mountain offers splendid 360-degree panoramas, and can be reached by a challenging yet rewarding trail through the cloud forest, home to orchids and birds.

# Trains to Machu Picchu

Train journeys are a highlight of travel in Peru. Below is the full selection of services that run daily from Cuzco or the Sacred Valley to the spectacular ruins of Machu Picchu. The journey takes between 1.5 and 3.5 hours, and passes through small villages and mountain scenery along the Urubamba river.



#### **Belmond Hiram Bingham**

Named after the American explorer who rediscovered the Inca ruins, the luxury *Belmond Hiram Bingham* reflects the sumptuous glamour of the 1920s Pullman era and features four elegantly decorated carriages with polished wood and brass, and large comfortable armchairs. Enjoy fine dining (brunch or dinner) and Peruvian cocktails, and listen to live music in the observation bar car. The train ticket also includes an exclusive bus to the citadel and a guided tour, as well as afternoon tea at the Belmond Sanctuary Lodge.



#### Vistadome train

The aptly named *Vistadome* train enables passengers to enjoy magnificent views through its panoramic windows that extend into the domed carriage ceilings. Plush leather seats are arranged in groups of four around small tables with ample leg room and a high quality sound system. Peruvian snacks are served and add to the authentic Andean experience. On the return trip from Machu Picchu, staff provide unique entertainment by performing live traditional dance and fashion shows with fine alpaca garments.



#### Inca Rail's Voyager & First Class

Forming part of the same service, the *Voyager* and *First Class* carriages of Inca Rail travel between Ollanta and Machu Picchu only.
Passengers can enjoy the scenery from plush seats and large windows with complimentary hot and cold drinks, and relaxing background music. An upgrade to *First Class* includes a welcome cocktail and a four-course meal prepared with Andean ingredients, as well as access to an elegant observatory-lounge car featuring comfortable armchairs, a bar, an outdoor balcony and live music.



#### Sacred Valley train

The Sacred Valley train starts its journey in Urubamba and makes brief stops at the Belmond Hotel Rio Sagrado and the village of Ollantaytambo for guests to board and disembark. It features elegant interiors in its dining carriage and observatory bar car with comfortable armchairs and an outside balcony. A gourmet three-course meal is served in each direction, complete with a glass of wine and selection of soft drinks.



#### The 360° Machu Picchu train

The newest service on the tracks to Machu Picchu features an interactive journey app and custom-designed wider and taller windows that stretch into the roof of the carriage and allow passengers to appreciate the full extent of the towering Andean mountains. Unlike most other trains on the route, the carriages interconnect so guests can easily access the central open-air observation wagon to take pictures or enjoy the fresh air.



#### **Expedition train**

The most affordable train option to Machu Picchu does not compromise on the onboard experience. The *Expedition* carriages are sociably laid out with comfortable seats in groups of four and colourfully decorated with designs of Incan culture. Views of the passing Andean scenery are maximised by the addition of picture windows in the ceilings and Andean snacks and soft drinks are available to buy throughout the journey.

# Peru Luxury Rail Journeys



Belmond Andean Explorer

#### Belmond Andean Explorer Luxury sleeper train

The only luxury sleeper train in South America travels along one of the world's highest rail routes between Cuzco, Lake Titicaca and Arequipa. The 35 stylish en suite cabins combine modern sophistication and period features with traditional Peruvian textures. Cabins range from snug bunk or twin-bedded rooms to luxurious suites with full double beds. Guests can enjoy afternoon tea and three-course gourmet meals created with local ingredients in one of the two dining carriages, or sip refreshing cocktails in the elegant piano lounge car. Eye-catching views of lush valleys, dramatic peaks and herds of vicuñas and alpacas can be further enjoyed from the observation car featuring a bar and an open deck. There are excursions accompanied by expert guides to local sites along the way and an onboard spa offering exclusive body rituals and wellness treatments.

#### **Andean Explorer Journeys**

#### **Spirit of the Andes**

Puno – Cuzco • 1 day & 1 night Scenic stop at La Raya • Panoramic views over breakfast

#### **Spirit of the Water**

Cuzco – Puno • 1 day & 1 night

Raqchi archaeological site • Sunset at La Raya • Sunrise over Lake Titicaca

#### **Andean Plains & Islands of Discovery**

Arequipa – Puno – Cuzco • 2 days & 2 nights Sunrise over Lake Titicaca • Taquile & Uros reed islands • Raqchi archaeological site

#### **Peruvian Highlands**

Cuzco – Puno – Arequipa • 3 days & 2 nights Visit Raqchi archaeological site • Sunrise over Lake Titicaca • Taquile & Uros reed islands • Prehistoric cave paintings • Panoramic tour of Arequipa • Option to visit Colca Canyon

# PeruRail Titicaca Train Day trips between Cuzco & Puno

The PeruRail *Titicaca* train follows in the footsteps of the Incas from the ancient city of Cuzco to the shores of Lake Titicaca, and vice versa. Local musicians provide background music as guests board a 10-hour journey, regarded as one of the most scenic in Peru. The train provides an elegant ambience with cedar panelled walls and plush seats alongside large picture windows, travelling through spectacular scenery of towering Andean mountains, deep valleys and gentle rolling high plains, where vicuñas and alpacas may be seen.

A three-course gourmet lunch followed by coffee, as well as afternoon tea, is served in the sophisticated 1920s-inspired dining car. Further vistas of the changing landscapes can be enjoyed from the open-air observatory car at the back of the train, complete with Peruvian cocktails.



Belmond Andean Explorer bar car



Belmond Andean Explorer bunk bed cabin



Titicaca train dining car

# Peruvian Amazon & River Cruises



Blue-and-yellow macaws, Tambopata Reserve



Aria Amazon

# Puerto Maldonado & Tambopata Reserve

Rainforest lodges • Diverse wildlife • Easily combined with Cuzco & Machu Picchu

A stay in a rainforest lodge near Puerto Maldonado, accessible by air from both Lima and Cuzco, offers excellent opportunities to explore the Amazonian jungle and the countless streams, creeks and lakes of the Tambopata Reserve. Expert naturalist guides take guests on rainforest walks to discover the surrounding environment and spot tiny lizards and colourful frogs. Howler monkeys, black caimans, giant river otters, toucans and macaws can be observed on boat trips through flooded forests or past giant lily pads.

Accommodation options include Inkaterra Reserva Amazonica, adjacent to the Tambopata National Reserve; Inkaterra Hacienda Concepcion; Posada Amazonas; Refugio Amazonas; and the remote Tambopata Research Centre.

# Iquitos & the Amazon River

Superior & luxury cruises • Pink dolphins • Riverside communities

Peru's northern jungle city of Iquitos is a starting point for 3-, 4- and 7-night cruises that navigate the upper reaches of the Amazon river, penetrating the sprawling carpet of rainforest and visiting areas inaccessible by land. Cruise the Marañon and the Ucayali tributaries and explore the remote and wild Pacaya-Samiria Reserve, a habitat for an outstanding array of birdlife, flora and fauna, including monkeys, sloths, and pink and grey dolphins. Watch the Amazon world pass by your window and visit small villages to interact with the isolated riverside communities. Daily shared excursions are made in small groups, either on foot or in motorised skiffs, with expert jungle guides.

Back in Iquitos, visits include the manatee rescue centre and the floating district of Belén, with hundreds of houses built on rafts that gently rise and fall with the level of the waters.

### C&K Recommends...

#### Aria Amazon & Agua Nera

Cruise duration: 3, 4 & 7 nights

Aria Amazon and the brand new Agua Nera are two of the most exclusive river cruisers in the Amazon. Striking black-hulled ships with awardwinning design, they offer 16 and 20 sleek suites respectively, with floorto-ceiling windows and air conditioning. On board, relax in the elegant top deck lounge, cool off in the outdoor jacuzzi overlooking the river and sample fine cuisine overseen by renowned chef Pedro Miguel Schiaffino.

#### Delfin I, II & III

Cruise duration: 3 & 4 nights

The Delfin fleet offers comfortable first-class river cruisers. *Delfin II* can accommodate up to 28 passengers while Delfin I has just four spacious air-conditioned suites with private terraces and floor-to-ceiling windows. Two of the suites feature private jacuzzis. The larger Delfin III takes up to 43 passengers. All boats offer open-air observation decks affording superb views and a restaurant serving fresh cuisine.

#### Inkaterra Reserva Amazonica

The Inkaterra Reserva Amazonica is situated in 170 sq km of private ecological reserve on the banks of the Madre de Dios river. The lodge's 35 spacious and private thatched-roof cabins feature ceiling fans, beds with mosquito canopies and a screened siesta area. The dining pavilion includes a bar, upstairs lounge area and balconies for birdwatching and stargazing, while the spa offers views of the river and sunset. The treetop canopy walkway provides a bird's-eye view of the dense rainforest.



Inkaterra Reserva Amazonica

# Northern Peru

# Chiclayo, Trujillo & the Pacific Coast

#### Colonial towns • Adobe pyramids • Pacific retreats

The north of Peru was home to numerous ancient civilisations. including the Moche and Chimu cultures, resulting in intriguing sites and impressive ruins. The city of Trujillo has a wealth of colonial history including old churches and graceful pastel-coloured mansions with magnificent balconies and strikingly adorned, iron bar windows. Close by, discover Chan Chan, the largest adobe city in the Americas; the splendid Sun and Moon pyramids; and the colourful murals of the El Brujo complex. Near Chiclayo are the pyramids of Túcume and the Museum of the Royal Tombs of Sipán with one of the finest exhibits of pre-Columbian gold and silver objects.

The desert coast around Máncora offers some of the best beaches and Pacific retreats, and is frequented by migrating whales between August and October.



Karajia sarcophagi, Chachapoyas



Moon pyramid, Trujillo

# Chachapoyas

#### Ancient pre-Inca sites • Off the beaten track

Inland in the Andes, the cloud forest of Chachapoyas hides the remains of a culture that fiercely rivalled the Incas and built the spectacular walled city of Kuelap (see page 23). Seldom explored yet fascinating are the red ochre cliff tombs of Revash and the ancient, intricately carved, 3-metre-high Karajia sarcophagi. The small town of Leymebamba is home to an interesting museum with a renowned collection of more than 200 mummies.

Little-known Gocta Falls has been declared one of the highest in the world. Stunning views can be enjoyed from a distance or along a 5-kilometre-long trail that takes you closer to the base of the roaring cataract. The surrounding cloud forest is inhabited by colourful orchids, toucans, monkeys and the eye-catching cock-of-the-rock.

#### A suggested itinerary...

#### **Ancient Civilisations of Peru**

16 days & 14 nights from £3,295 Category • Standard

Combine Peru's famous landmarks with the lesser visited but extremely rewarding north, home to natural wonders, colonial cities and fascinating archaeological sites.

#### Days 1-2: Fly to Lima

Fly to Lima for 2 nights and take a city tour. (B) Days 3-4: Fly to Chachapoyas • Kuelap Fly to Jaen and drive to Chachapoyas. Stay for 2 nights and travel to Kuelap to explore one of the largest ancient sites of the Americas. (B) Days 5-6: Karajia • Gocta Falls

Visit the mysterious sarcophagi of Karajia and

continue to Gocta Falls for 2 nights nearby. Hike to the base of the falls and relax in serene surroundings. (B)

#### Day 7: Chiclayo

Drive towards the coast to Chiclayo and visit one of the excellent museums, such as the Museum of the Royal Tombs of Sipan. (B, L)

#### Days 8-9: Trujillo

Continue to Trujillo for 2 nights stopping at the mystical El Brujo pyramid complex and the Lady of Cao museum en route. Tour the Sun and Moon pyramids and the adobe city of Chan Chan. (B)

#### Days 10-11: Fly to Cuzco • Sacred Valley

Fly to Cuzco and transfer to the Sacred Valley with an optional stop at Chinchero en route. Visit the Inca fortress Ollantaytambo.

#### Day 12: Machu Picchu

Take the train to Machu Picchu, take a tour

and stay overnight. (B)

#### Days 13-14: Cuzco

Return to Cuzco and explore the city's cobbled streets and museums. (B) Days 15-16: Fly home via Lima. (B) (N)

Guideline Prices (incl. flights) Low season from: £3,295 (Jan - Mar)

High season from: £3,495 (May - Oct)

Tour code: PEC



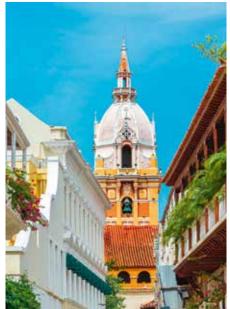
# Peru & Beyond suggested itineraries...



Lake Titicaca, Bolivia



Christ the Redeemer, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



Cartagena, Colombia

#### Peru & Bolivia

15 days & 12 nights from £3,495 **Category** • Standard

This journey crosses from Peru to Bolivia via Lake Titicaca. Take in dramatic Andean scenery, ancient Inca sites and colonial architecture. Includes an overnight stay on Sun Island on Lake Titicaca and a visit to the Uyuni salt flats.

#### Days 1-3: Fly to Cuzco via Bogotá

Fly overnight to Cuzco and transfer to the Sacred Valley for 2 nights. Visit an indigenous market and Ollantaytambo Inca fortress. (B)

#### Day 4: Machu Picchu • Cuzco

Take a full-day trip by train to Machu Picchu. (An overnight stay can also be arranged). Take the train to Cuzco for 2 nights. (B, L) **Day 5: Cuzco** 

# Guided tour of this charming city. (B) **Days 6-7: Puno & Lake Titicaca**

Scenic bus journey across the altiplano to Puno for an overnight stay. Continue by hydrofoil across Lake Titicaca into Bolivia and stay 1 night on picturesque Sun Island. (B, L, D)

#### Days 8-9: Fly to Salar de Uyuni

Explore the lake shores, then travel by road to La Paz for a flight to Uyuni. Stay for 2 nights at a salt hotel and explore the otherworldly salt flats by 4x4. (B, L)

#### Days 10-11: Fly to La Paz

Fly to La Paz and tour the city, the Witches' Market and Moon Valley. (B)

#### Days 12-13: Fly to Lima

Fly to Lima for 2 nights. Explore the city's colonial heritage. (B)

Days 14-15: Fly home via Bogotá. (B) (N)

**Guideline Prices** (incl. flights) Low season from: £3,495 (Jan – Mar) High season from: £3,595 (Apr – Oct)

#### Peru & Brazil

13 days & 11 nights from £3,395 **Category** • Superior

Combine Peru and Brazil via an easy direct flight from Lima. Marvel at the Inca heritage in the Sacred Valley and at Machu Picchu, the thundering waters of Iguaçu Falls, the welcoming statue of Christ the Redeemer in Rio and relax on world-renowned Brazilian beaches.

#### Days 1-2: Fly to Lima

Fly to Lima. Stay 2 nights and take a guided city tour. (B)

#### Day 3: Fly to Cuzco • Sacred Valley

Fly to Cuzco. Visit the village of Chinchero to see its church and a traditional weaving demonstration. Continue to the Sacred Valley for a tour of the Inca fortress of Ollantaytambo and stay overnight. (B)

#### Day 4: Machu Picchu

Take the train to Machu Picchu for a guided tour and overnight stay. (B, L, D)

#### Days 5-6: Cuzco

Option to revisit the ruins in the morning or hike on local trails. Afternoon train back to Cuzco. Stay 2 nights and take a city tour. (B)

#### Days 7-8: Fly to Iguaçu Falls via Lima

Fly to Lima and on to Iguaçu for a 2-night stay. Full-day tour of the Argentinian and Brazilian sides of the falls. (B)

#### Days 9-11: Fly to Rio de Janeiro

Fly to Rio and stay for 3 nights. Full-day tour, including Sugar Loaf Hill and the statue of Christ the Redeemer on Corcovado mountain. There will be time at leisure to enjoy the vibrant city and its beaches. (B)

#### Days 12-13: Fly home

Fly home overnight. (B) (N)

# Guideline Prices (incl. flights)

Low season from: £3,395 (Jan – Mar) High season from: £3,495 (May, Sep – Nov)

#### Peru & Colombia

15 days & 12 nights from £2,295 **Category** • Standard

Discover the renowned treasures and ancient Inca sites of Peru before and after exploring Colombia, a fast growing and intriguing tourist destination with a vibrant culture and colonial history. Direct flights allow for easy one-trip country combinations.

#### Days 1-3: Fly to Bogotá

Fly overnight direct to Bogotá and stay for 2 nights. Half-day city tour of the mountain capital including the Gold Museum and Monserrat Hill. (B)

#### Days 4-5: Fly to Cuzco • Sacred Valley

Fly to Cuzco and continue to the Sacred Valley for 2-nights. Optional visit to Ollantaytambo fortress, the Maras saltpans or a local market. (B)

#### Day 6: Machu Picchu

Travel by train to Machu Picchu. Tour the ruins and stay overnight. (B, D)

#### Days 7-8: Cuzco

Option to further explore the ruins or take a short hike before the train journey back to Cuzco. Stay 2 nights and take a tour of the former Inca capital. (B)

#### Days 9-10: Fly to Lima

Fly to Lima for 2 nights and tour the city. Optional excursions include the Larco Museum or a visit to a local vegetable market. (B)

#### Days 11-13: Fly to Cartagena

Fly to Cartagena on Colombia's Caribbean coast for a 3-night stay in the old town. Discover the colonial charms of this colourful former port and take an optional boat trip. (B)

#### Days 14-15: Fly home via Bogotá

Fly home overnight via Bogotá. (B) (N)

**Guideline Prices** (incl. flights) Low season from: £2,295 (Mar) High season from: £2,395 (May – Nov)

# Experiences in Peru



#### Casa Aliaga visit, Lima

This superbly preserved colonial mansion, the oldest in Lima, dates back to 1535 when the city was founded. Built on land given to Jerónimo de Aliaga by conquistador Pizarro, it has since been occupied by the same family. The unassuming building has ornately decorated interiors with original tiles, fine furnishings, tapestries and centuriesold art, as well as the sword used by Aliaga in the conquest of Peru.



#### Inca ice maidens, Arequipa

The small museum of Andean Sanctuaries is a must on a visit to Arequipa. A display of clothes, jewellery and weaving together with the up-close view of frozen bodies from 500 years ago provide an incredible glimpse into Inca culture and sacrifices. Different mummies are displayed in turn, but the most famous is Juanita, a 12-year old Ice Maiden and the best-preserved of all Inca 'mummies' found in the Andes.



#### Nazca Lines scenic overflight

The sprawling geometric figures of Nazca were carved into the coastal desert by an unknown pre-Inca civilization. Hundreds of metres long, they are hard to identify from the ground, but from above their true splendour is revealed. Board a light aircraft at Pisco airport, near Paracas, for a 90-minute overflight and observe a giant spider, monkey, astronaut or bird from the air, while pondering the mystery.



#### Peruvian culinary experience, Lima

Peru is known for its incredible flavours and is fast becoming a foodie destination. Spend time with a talented chef and visit a local market to discover the incredible variety of produce from the coast, the highlands and the jungle. Learn how to prepare several typical dishes, sample *ceviche* and tapas, then enjoy the fruits of your labour accompanied by a *pisco sour*, Peru's potent national drink.



#### Condor spotting, Colca Canyon

Spot majestic Andean condors at a very close range at Colca. Recommended is an early morning excursion to Condor Cross, a scenic viewpoint overlooking one of the deepest parts of this dramatic canyon. These sacred creatures, with an enormous 3-metre wingspan, can be seen gliding effortlessly on thermal currents, circling far below in the depths of the canyon and soaring above visitors' heads.



#### Family adventures in the Amazon

**Refugio Amazonas** lodge lies in a private reserve, 4 hours from Puerto Maldonado. Built from local materials, its rustic rooms feature an open side to allow close contact with the rainforest. Dedicated trails for children and mountain biking make the lodge ideal for families. Paddle around lakes, visit clay licks, spot wildlife from the canopy tower, or help researchers collect insects and data from camera traps.



#### Uros floating islands, Lake Titicaca

These floating islands near Puno are inhabited by the indigenous Uros people, whose livelihood for generations has depended on the totora reed. Growing densely in the marshy shallows, it is used to build their homes, boats and is even compressed to form the floating islands themselves. Take a boat trip and see spectacular lake panoramas, the golden-brown reed houses and rafts, and the colourfully dressed Uros.



#### Inti Raymi festival, Cuzco

Inti Raymi, the most important Inca ritual celebration in honour of the Sun god, coincides with the winter solstice. The present-day festivities include a spectacular re-enactment starting at Koricancha. Hundreds of Inca descendants in colourful finery, accompanied by music and dancing, wind in a procession to the main plaza of Cuzco, before continuing to Sacsayhuaman for the climax of the ritual ceremony.



#### Sacred Valley active explorations

Active travellers can experience a different side of the Sacred Valley by taking a horse ride, jumping on a mountain bike or simply lacing up their walking shoes. Explore trails that pass alongside Inca terraces and the Urubamba river, meandering through beautiful Andean landscapes and scenic farmlands, and observe the rural lifestyle of the local communities.



#### Local markets & communities, Sacred Valley

The picturesque villages of the Sacred Valley are home to Incan descendants wearing traditional attire. Outstanding textiles are still woven using techniques unchanged for centuries, and potatoes, guinea pigs and colourful ponchos are bartered at lively markets such as Pisac and Chinchero. Visits to communities such as Huilloc in the nearby Lares Valley provide further insight into local traditions.



#### Inca Trail experience

Trace the footsteps of the Incas on a 4-day / 3-night trek with mesmerising views and fascinating archaeological sites en route. Hike accompanied by porters along ancient footpaths, up mountain passes and through cloud forest, and stay overnight in tented camps. There is a shorter 1-day express trek from KM 104 and an alternative longer, Salkantay trail along a lesser-trodden route with comfortable lodges.



#### Cable car to Kuelap, Chachapoyas

Set in the northern Peruvian Andes, this impressive pre-Inca fortress with 20-metre-high walls is an amazing feat of construction. Stretching for more than 600 metres along a soaring ridgetop, it can be accessed via a scenic cable car and commands breathtaking views of the surrounding mountains. The remains of hundreds of structures and dwellings, some with fascinating stone friezes, can be explored.

# Train to Machu Picchu

**Duration** • 16 days & 14 nights **Category** • Superior & Luxury

**Group tour •** From £2,995 (incl. flights) **Private tour •** From £3,495 (incl. flights)

#### This group tour features...

- 4- & 5-star accommodation
- Direct international flights with British Airways
- Internal flights
- Flexible extensions, room & flight upgrades available
- Average group size 16 people (max 26)
- Transfers in air-conditioned vehicles
- Experienced local tour manager
- 14 breakfasts, 7 lunches, 2 dinners
- Guided sightseeing & entrance fees
- Porterage at airports & stations
- Inti Raymi<sup>†</sup>, Easter & Christmas departures



Peruvian woman, the Sacred Valley

Machu Picchu is perhaps the most breathtaking archaeological site in the world. Yet Peru also offers a wealth of other magnificent ancient, colonial and scenic sights. Staying in good hotels with great character and with some free time to relax, this tour reveals Peru's many wonders, including Cuzco and Arequipa, the Colca Canyon, Lake Titicaca and, of course, Machu Picchu.

#### Weather

Cuzco

	J	F	М	Α	M	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	17	17	17	18	18	18	17	18	18	19	19	18
В	4	4	4	3	0	-2	-2	-1	1	3	3	4
C	153	136	120	46	8	2	4	8	23	40	68	116

A: Maximum average temperature (C) B: Minimum average temperature (C) C: Average rainfall (mm)

#### Area map



#### C&K Signature experiences

- Stay overnight at Machu Picchu
- Visit the oldest private colonial mansion in Lima
- Spot majestic condors in Colca Canyon
- Scenic train journey across the altiplano & overnight aboard the luxury Belmond Andean Explorer

#### Day 1: Fly to Lima

Fly from London (regional connections available) to Lima with British Airways and transfer to the Casa Andina Premium Miraflores / Belmond Miraflores Park\* for 2 nights. (N)

#### Day 2: Lima

Morning tour of colonial and modern Lima, including Casa Aliaga, the oldest colonial mansion in Lima, and the architectural masterpiece of San Francisco monastery. (B)

#### Day 3: Fly to Arequipa

Fly over the Andes to Arequipa, a city of white buildings and colonnaded plazas, surrounded by the dramatic landscape of ice-capped volcanoes. Stay at the Costa del Sol Wyndham for 2 nights. (B)

#### Day 4: Arequipa

Full-day city tour, including the beautiful Santa Catalina convent, which dates from the 16th century, and the Juanita Mummy Museum. (B, L)

#### Day 5: Colca Canyon

Drive into the Andes towards Colca Canyon (approx 4 hours, partly on unpaved roads, with stops en route). The scenery is breathtaking, with the terraces of the Colca valley and herds of llamas scattered around. Overnight at Aranwa Colca / Belmond Las Casitas\*. (B, L)

#### Day 6: Lake Titicaca

Early morning excursion to Condor's Cross, where magnificent condors can be seen flying over the canyon. Visit the town of Maca, famed for its pre-Columbian textiles, and continue by road to Puno and Lake Titicaca (approx 6 hours). Stay 2 nights at the **Libertador** on the shore of the lake. (B, L)

#### Day 7: Lake Titicaca

Full-day tour of the floating Uros reed islands and Taquile island, with a home-cooked lunch prepared by a local family. (B, L)

#### Day 8: Luxury train to Cuzco

Take the stylish *Belmond Andean Explorer* train to Cuzco. Relax over lunch or with a pisco sour in the observation car as you pass through gentle rolling Andean plains where vicuñas and alpacas may be seen. Dinner and overnight on board (bunk bed cabin). Upgrade to a twinbedded cabin from £105 per person. (B, L, D)

#### Day 9: Chinchero • Sacred Valley

Disembark the train and travel by road to the indigenous village of Chinchero to see its Inca terraces and a traditional weaving demonstration. Continue to the Sacred Valley and stay 2 nights at Casa Andina Premium Sacred Valley / Inkaterra Hacienda Urubamba\*. (B, L)

#### **Day 10: Sacred Valley**

Half-day visit to the Inca fortress at Ollantaytambo, an astounding feat of construction and ingenuity. Afternoon at leisure. (B)

#### Day 11: Machu Picchu

Drive to Ollanta and take the *Vistadome* train to Machu Picchu. Tour the spectacular ruins and stay overnight at the *Inkaterra Machu Picchu Hotel / Sumaq Machu Picchu Hotel\**. (B, L, D\*)

#### Day 12: Cuzco

Morning at leisure or further explore Machu



Machu Picchu

Picchu (purchase ticket at time of booking). Return to Cuzco by rail and transfer to the Casa Andina Premium Cuzco / Palacio del Inka, a Luxury Collection Hotel\*, or Belmond Hotel Monasterio\* for 3 nights. (B)

#### Day 13: Cuzco

Morning tour of Cuzco, including the San Blas district, the cathedral and the extraordinary Temple of the Sun at Koricancha. Afternoon at leisure in the Inca capital. (B)

#### Day 14: Cuzco

Day at leisure or take an optional excursion to the Pre-Columbian Art Museum, Awanacancha llama farm or the ruins of Sacsayhuaman. (B)

#### Days 15-16: Fly to London via Lima

Fly to London via Lima with British Airways, arriving the next day. (B) (N)

Meal basis: As per itinerary - B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

#### <sup>†</sup>Inti Raymi festival

The 12 June 2020 departure coincides with the Inti Raymi festival (see page 23) and has a modified itinerary. It includes a 2-night stay at Colca, the scenic *Titicaca* train day journey (see page 18), a stay at the Sonesta Hotel in Cuzco and a full day of ceremonial celebrations in honour of the Sun god.

#### Important information

\*Tour standards: Superior tour departures are based in 4- and 5-star accommodation. Luxury tour departures feature upgraded accommodation as indicated by the asterisks and a special six-course tasting 'Flavours of the Andes' dinner at Sumaq Machu Picchu. Please visit this tour on our website to see details of the hotels included.

**Itinerary:** The order of the itinerary allows gradual adjustment to the altitude, while

taking in the major sights of Peru. There are some early morning starts and long drives. Departures between November and April will fly to Peru via Madrid.

Optional upgrades: On day 11 upgrade to Belmond Sanctuary Lodge from £295, subject to availability. On day 12, the supplement to stay at Belmond Hotel Monasterio is from £165.

Private & tailor-made travel: This itinerary can be taken privately, for which guideline prices are shown. Alternatively, it can be tailored to your exact requirements. Please call 020 3627 3097 or visit CoxandKings.co.uk/ make-an-enquiry.

#### **Guideline prices for 2020-21**

#### Group tour: Superior

Low season from £2,995 Guide price month: Nov

High season from £3,195 Guide price months: Apr – Sep

Single supplement from £895

#### **Group tour: Luxury**

Low season from £3,495 Guide price month: Oct

High season from £3,595 Guide price months: May - Sep

Single supplement from £1,395

#### Private travel: Superior Low season from £3,495 Guide price month: Oct

High season from £3,595 Guide price months: May, Jun,

Single supplement on request.

The guideline high season prices may be significantly lower than the peak season prices (20 Dec - 02 Jan)

#### **British Airways flight upgrades**

World Traveller Plus from £595 return Club World from £2,095 return

#### Regional air connections

Prices on request. British Airways to / from Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Manchester, Newcastle or Belfast

The guideline tour prices are all per person in UK pounds, based on two people sharing a twin / double room. For current prices for all departure dates, including special offers when applicable, please call 020 3627 3097 or visit CoxandKings.co.uk. All prices are subject to availability.

#### Superior group tour departure dates for 2020-21

Out (Wed) Rtn (Thu)	Out (Wed) Rtn (Thu)	Out (Wed) Rtn (Thu)
26 Feb 20 12 Mar 20	†12 Jun 20 27 Jun 20	23 Sep 20 08 Oct 20
25 Mar 20 09 Apr 20	24 Jun 20 09 Jul 20	30 Sep 20 15 Oct 20
08 Apr 20 23 Apr 20	08 Jul 20 23 Jul 20	14 Oct 20 29 Oct 20
22 Apr 20 07 May 20	22 Jul 20 06 Aug 20	28 Oct 20 12 Nov 20
29 Apr 20 14 May 20	12 Aug 20 27 Aug 20	11 Nov 20 26 Nov 20
06 May 20 21 May 20	26 Aug 20 10 Sep 20	16 Dec 20 31 Dec 20
20 May 20 04 Jun 20	02 Sep 20 17 Sep 20	03 Mar 21 18 Mar 21
27 May 20 11 Jun 20	16 Sep 20 01 Oct 20	31 Mar 21 15 Apr 21

#### Tour code: TMP

Out (Wed) Rtn (Thu)
14 Apr 21 29 Apr 21
28 Apr 21 13 May 21
05 May 21 20 May 21
19 May 21 03 Jun 21
26 May 21 10 Jun 21

Tour code: TML

#### Luxury group tour departure dates for 2020-21

Out (Wed) Rtn (Thu)	Out (Wed)	Rtn (Thu)	Out (Wed)	Rtn (Thu)
13 May 20 28 May 20	09 Sep 20	24 Sep 20	12 May 21	27 May 21
17 Jun 20 02 Jul 20	07 Oct 20	22 Oct 20		

# **Tour Extensions**

Valid for Train to Machu Picchu tour

#### **Tour + Peruvian Rainforest**

4 days & 2 nights from £425 Tour code: TMPPEM

The Peruvian Amazon has remarkable biodiversity and the area around Puerto Maldonado provides an excellent opportunity to see a great variety of flora, birds and other wildlife. Guided walks and boat trips give an insight into the rainforest's extraordinary ecosystem.

#### Day 15: Fly to Puerto Maldonado

Fly to Puerto Maldonado and transfer by motorised canoe to the **Inkaterra Hacienda Concepcion** for 2 nights (individual bungalow). Upgrade to the sister property **Reserva Amazonica** (see page 19) available from £195 per person (Superior river-view bungalow). Please note that electricity is generally limited in jungle lodges. (B, L, D)

#### Day 16: The Amazon

Explore the surrounding rainforest, rivers and Sandoval lake, habitats for macaws, black caimans, giant otters and monkeys. The Inkaterra canopy walkway consists of hanging bridges that allow you to observe the incredible rainforest from the treetops. (B, L, D)

#### Day 17: Fly to Lima

Return to Puerto Maldonado. Fly to Lima and on to London with British Airways. (B) Day 18: Arrive in London (N)

**Extension:** It is possible to leave Cuzco a day earlier and spend 3 nights at Puerto Maldonado (please enquire for supplements).



Scarlet macaws, Puerto Maldonado



The Hummingbird Nazca line

# **Tour + Nazca & Paracas** 4 days & 2 nights from £695

Tour code: TMPNAZ

Travel along the coast south of Lima to see the Nazca Lines, mysterious drawings in the desert depicting animals and geometric shapes left by pre-Inca civilisations. Take a boat to the Ballestas islands, home to sea lion colonies, Humbolt penguins and an incredible concentration of sea birds.

#### Day 15: Fly to Lima • Paracas

Fly to Lima and drive to Paracas (approximately 3.5 hours). Stay at La Hacienda Bahia, set in the bay, for 2 nights. Upgrade to Hotel Paracas, a Luxury Collection Resort, from £105 per person (see page 37). (B)

#### Day 16: Nazca Lines

Transfer to nearby Pisco airport and take a light aircraft to Nazca for a flight over the mysterious desert geoglyphs. (B)

Day 17: Ballestas islands • Fly to London Morning cruise to the Ballestas islands to observe cormorants, Peruvian boobies, pelicans and noisy sea lions. Transfer to Lima

airport and take an overnight flight to London

with British Airways. (B) **Day 18: London** 

Afternoon arrival in London. (N)

#### Tour + Rio de Janeiro & Iguaçu

6 days & 4 nights from £1,295

Tour code: TMPRIO

Combine your trip to Peru with vibrant Brazil. Visit Rio de Janeiro's celebrated landmarks and the awe-inspiring Iguaçu Falls. Clients taking this extension will leave a day earlier and not have a day at leisure in Cuzco. Please note that the entry fees at the Iguazú and Iguaçu National Parks are not included.

#### Day 14: Fly to Iguaçu via Lima

Morning flight to Iguaçu, via Lima and stay for 2 nights at the **Recanto Park Hotel**, or optional upgrade to the **Belmond Hotel das Cataratas** inside the national park. (B)

#### Day 15: Iguaçu

Full-day tour of the Argentinian and Brazilian sides of these amazing falls. (B)

#### Days 16-17: Fly to Rio

Fly to Rio de Janeiro and transfer to the beachfront **Windsor California Hotel** for 2 nights (Superior room). Full-day tour of Rio, including Christ the Redeemer and Sugar Loaf mountain. (B)

#### Days 18-19: Fly to London

Evening flight to London with British Airways, arriving the following day. (B) (N)



Máncora

# **Tour + Northern Beaches** 6 days & 4 nights from £745

Tour code: TMPMAN

With their proximity to the equator, the Pacific beaches of the north around Tumbes and Máncora offer year-round sunshine and excellent seafood, ideal for relaxing at the end of your trip to Peru.

#### Day 15: Fly to Talara via Lima

Fly to Talara, via Lima, and drive to laid-back Máncora (approximately 1 hour 30 minutes). Stay at the **Arennas Máncora** (see page 37) for 4 nights. (B)

#### Days 16-18: Máncora

Days at leisure by the beach. Between August and October it is possible to see humpback whales breaching from the water. (B)

#### Days 19-20: Fly to London via Lima

Fly to London, via Lima, with British Airways, arriving the following day. (B) (N)

#### **Tour + Galapagos**

Fly to Quito for a couple of nights and continue to the Galapagos for a 3- or 4-night cruise. Explore the natural wonders of these unique islands from the comfort of your chosen boat (see pages 48-49) before flying home.



Sugar Loaf mountain, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



Trujillo Cathedral



6 days & 4 nights from £895 Tour code: TMPCHT

Northern Peru contains a wealth of pre-Incan archaeological sites. This extension ventures off the tourist trail and combines adobe pyramids and fascinating museums with the colonial heritage of Trujillo, a former port of call for the Spanish treasure fleet.

#### Days 15-16: Fly to Chiclayo via Lima

Fly to Chiclayo, via Lima. Transfer to Casa Andina Select for 2 nights and visit the Museum of the Royal Tombs of Sipan to see gold and turquoise pottery and textiles. (B) Day 17: To Trujillo

Transfer along the desert road to Trujillo, visiting El Brujo pyramid complex and the Lady of Cao Museum en route. Stay 2 nights at the centrally located **Wyndham Costa del Sol Trujillo**. (B)

#### Day 18: Trujillo

Tour the Sun and Moon pyramids and Chan Chan, ancient capital of the Chimu culture and the largest adobe city. (B, L)

#### Days 19-20: Fly to London via Lima

Fly to Lima to connect to an evening British Airways flight to London, arriving the following day. (B) (N)



Iguazú Falls, Argentina

#### Tour + Buenos Aires & Iguazú Falls

7 days & 5 nights from £1,495 Tour code: TMPBUI

Extend your tour with a visit to the Argentinian capital of Buenos Aires, known for its seductive culture and excellent cuisine, and a visit to the Iguazú Falls. Please note that entry fees at Iguazú and Iguaçu National Parks are not included.

#### Days 15-17: Fly to Buenos Aires

Fly to Buenos Aires and transfer to the Intersur Recoleta for 3 nights or optional upgrade to the Alvear Art Hotel (please enquire for prices). Take a half-day city tour including the colourful port district of La Boca and elegant Recoleta. Optional excursions to the Pampas or Colonia in Uruguay are also available. (B)

#### Days 18-19: Fly to Iguazú

Fly to Iguazú and stay for 2 nights at the Mercure Iguazú Hotel. Optional upgrade to the Melia Iguazú inside the park (please enquire for supplements). Explore the Argentinian and Brazilian sides of the falls. (B) Day 20: Fly to London via Rio de Janeiro Fly to London, via Rio, with British Airways. (B) Day 21: London

Early afternoon arrival in London. (N)

# Peru & Galapagos: Conquistadores, Incas & Islands

**Duration** • 16 days & 13 nights **Category** • Superior

**Group tour •** From £4,695 (incl. flights) **Private tour •** From £5,395 (incl. flights)

#### This group tour features...

- ❖ 4- & 5-star accommodation
- International & internal flights
- Flexible extensions, cabin & flight upgrades available
- Transfers in air-conditioned vehicles
- Experienced local tour guides in each destination
- Average group size 10 people (max 26)
- 13 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 5 dinners
- Guided sightseeing & entrance fees\*
- Porterage at airports

#### Weather

Cuzco

	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	17	17	17	18	18	18	17	18	18	19	19	18
В	4	4	4	3	0	-2	-2	-1	1	3	3	4
C	153	136	120	46	8	2	4	8	23	40	68	116

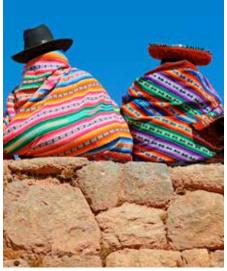
#### **Galapagos Islands**

	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	s	0	N	D
Α	28	30	30	30	28	27	25	24	24	24	25	26
В	18	19	18	19	18	17	16	15	15	15	16	16
С	178	146	170	156	79	106	115	80	86	67	72	130

A: Maximum average temperature (C) B: Minimum average temperature (C) C: Average rainfall (mm)

#### Area map





Quechua ladies, the Sacred Valley

This journey combines the ancient Inca sites of Peru with a cruise through the natural splendours of the Galapagos islands, bringing you into close contact with the islands' unique biodiversity.

#### C&K Signature experiences

- Overnight stay at Machu Picchu
- Encounter remarkable wildlife at close quarters with an expert naturalist guide
- \* Stylish medium-size expedition cruiser

#### Day 1: Fly to Cuzco via Bogotá

Overnight flight from London (regional connections available) to Cuzco via Bogotá with Avianca. (N)

#### Day 2: Sacred Valley

Late morning arrival in Cuzco, set in the Andes mountains. Transfer to the Sacred Valley of the Incas for a 2-night stay at the Casa Andina Premium. (N)

#### **Day 3: Sacred Valley**

Half-day tour of the town of Pisac and its indigenous market followed by a visit to the Inca fortress of Ollantaytambo. Afternoon at leisure. (B)

#### Day 4: Machu Picchu

Transfer to Ollanta station and board the *Vistadome* train to Machu Picchu. Take a

guided tour of the striking ruins. Overnight stay at **El Mapi Hotel**. (B, L, D)

#### Day 5: Cuzco

Morning at leisure or further explore Machu Picchu (purchase ticket at time of booking). Afternoon train journey to Cuzco and transfer to the Casa Andina Premium Cuzco for 2 nights. (B)

#### Day 6: Cuzco

Half-day tour of the old capital of the Inca empire including the cathedral, San Blas district and the Koricancha Temple of the Sun. Afternoon at leisure or optional visit to Sacsayhuaman. (B)

#### Day 7: Fly to Lima

Fly to Lima on the coast and stay for 2 nights at the Casa Andina Premium Miraflores. (B)

#### Day 8: Lima

Half-day tour of colonial and modern Lima, including Casa Aliaga, an exquisitely decorated colonial mansion, and the San Francisco monastery. (B)

#### Day 9: Fly to Quito, Ecuador

Fly to Quito, Ecuador's capital city. Transfer to the **Hilton Colon** for 2 nights. (B)

#### Day 10: Quito

Morning tour of Quito's historic centre including the impressive San Francisco church and the Middle of the World equatorial line monument. (B)

#### Day 11: Fly to the Galapagos

Fly to the Galapagos islands and board the *Isabela II* for a 4-night cruise around these fascinating islands (Classic cabin)<sup>†</sup>. See page 48 for further details of the ship. (B, L, D)

#### Days 12-14: The Galapagos

Take shared excursions with a naturalist guide to different islands to see the variety of landscapes and wildlife. Enjoy close encounters with some of the rarest animals and birds, including land iguanas, giant tortoises, frigatebirds, Darwin's finches, boobies and Galapagos penguins. (B, L, D)

# Days 15-16: Fly to London via Guayaquil & Bogotá

Disembark the cruise and fly to Guayaquil to connect with an overnight flight to London via Bogotá with Avianca, arriving the next day. (B) (N)

**Meal basis:** As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.



Sea lions, Galapagos

Tour code: CON

#### **Extensions**

#### Tour + Amazon

5 days & 4 nights from £1,295 Tour code: CONAMZ

Discover the extraordinary contrast in Ecuador's ecosystems with a visit to the Amazon rainforest. Stay 3 nights at Sacha Lodge or upgrade to La Selva Amazon Ecolodge & Spa (see page 51) and explore the jungle on morning and afternoon excursions. A night in Quito or near the airport is also required.

#### **Tour + Finch Bay Eco Hotel**

3 days & 2 nights from £595 Tour code: CONGPS

Extend your stay in the Galapagos with 2 nights at the Finch Bay Eco Hotel on Santa Cruz island (see page 51). The hotel offers land-based excursions or trips to nearby wildlife sites aboard their own boat. A night in Guayaquil may be also required on the way home.

#### Tour + Hacienda La Danesa

3 Days & 2 Nights from £495 Tour code: CONDAN

At the end of your trip enjoy the beautiful grounds of a historic dairy and cacao hacienda on the tropical coast, a 1.5-hour drive from Guayaquil (see page 50 for further details). Relax or take part in local experiences on the family owned estate.

#### **Important information**

Locally escorted tour: This tour is led in each destination en route by a local tour guide.

\* Galapagos park fees: Galapagos National Park fee is not included.

† Galapagos cruise cabin upgrades: On each departure, it is possible to upgrade to an

Owner's cabin from £375.

**Cruise inclusions:** Please note that beverages on board the cruise are not included.

**Private & tailor-made travel:** This itinerary can be taken privately on a date that suits you, for which guideline prices are shown. Alternatively, it can be tailored to your exact requirements.

#### **Guideline prices for 2020-21**

#### Group tour

Low season from £4,695 Guide price months: Late Oct - Nov

High season from £4,795 Guide price months: Apr - Sep

Single supplement from £2,995

#### **Private travel**

Low season from £5,395 Guide price months: Nov

High season from £5,495 Guide price months: Apr - Oct

Single supplement on request.

The guideline high season prices may be significantly lower than the peak season prices (Easter and New Year)

#### Avianca flight upgrades

Business Class from £1,795 return

#### Regional air connections

Prices on request. British Airways to/from Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Manchester, Newcastle or Belfast

The guideline tour prices are all per person in UK pounds, based on two people sharing a twin / double room. For current prices for all departure dates, including special offers when applicable, please call 020 3627 3097 or visit CoxandKings.co.uk. All prices are subject to availability.

#### Departure dates for 2020-21

Out (Fri) Rtn (Sat) 06 Mar 20 21 Mar 20 17 Apr 20 02 May 20 Out (Fri) Rtn (Sat) 29 May 20 13 Jun 20 26 Jun 20 11 Jul 20

Out (Fri) Rtn (Sat) 24 Jul 20 08 Aug 20 04 Sep 20 19 Sep 20 Out (Fri) Rtn (Sat) 30 Oct 20 14 Nov 20 12 Mar 21 27 Mar 21

# Treasures of Peru

**Duration** • 11 days & 9 nights **Category** • Standard

**Solo group tour •** From £2,495 (incl. flights)

### Solo Travellers

#### This solo group tour features...

- 3- & 4-star accommodation
- Twin / double rooms for single use
- Direct international flights with British Airways
- Internal flights
- Flexible extensions & flight upgrades available
- Average group size 12 people (max 18)
- Transfers in air-conditioned vehicles
- Experienced local tour manager
- 9 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 3 dinners
- Welcome & farewell group dinners
- Guided sightseeing & entrance fees
- Porterage at airports

# This introductory tour of Peru includes the country's most celebrated sights. Starting in Lima, explore Peru's ancient, colonial and scenic wonders including Cuzco, the Sacred Valley of the Incas, Lake Titicaca and, of course, Machu Picchu, perhaps the most breathtaking archaeological site in the world.

#### C&K Signature experiences

- Train ride through the Sacred Valley to Machu Picchu
- Stay overnight at Machu Picchu
- Enjoy lunch in the house of a local family on Lake Titicaca

#### Day 1: Fly to Lima

Fly from London (regional connections available) to Lima with British Airways. Transfer to **José Antonio Hotel** for a 2-night stay. (N)

#### Day 2: Lima

This morning explore the colonial and modern highlights of Lima, including the Huaca Pucllana, a pre-Columbian site, and the historic masterpiece of San Francisco monastery. In the evening, enjoy a welcome dinner. (B, D)

#### Day 3: Fly to Cuzco • The Sacred Valley

Morning flight to Cuzco, set high in the Andes mountains. Transfer to the Sacred Valley with

a wealth of Inca sites and great natural beauty. Stay for 2 nights at the **Hatun Valley** hotel. (B)

Pisac market

### Day 4: Sacred Valley

In the morning, visit the colourful Pisac market and the Inca fortress at Ollantaytambo, an astounding feat of construction and ingenuity. Afternoon at leisure to relax or explore the beautiful surroundings. (B)

#### Day 5: Machu Picchu

Transfer to Ollanta station and take the *Vistadome* train to Machu Picchu. Enjoy a guided tour of Machu Picchu and stay overnight at **El Mapi Hotel**. (B, L, D)

#### Day 6: Cuzco

Morning at leisure or further explore Machu Picchu (purchase ticket at time of booking). Return to Cuzco by train and transfer to Los Portales for 2 nights. This ancient Inca capital has beautiful colonial churches and mansions sitting alongside Inca remains. (B)

#### Day 7: Cuzco

Morning guided tour of Cuzco, including the cathedral, the extraordinary Koricancha (the Temple of the Sun), and the fortress of Sacsayhuaman. Afternoon at leisure. (B)

#### Day 8: Lake Titicaca

Travel by road to Puno on the shores of Lake Titicaca (approximately 10 hours with stops)\*. Travel past small valley towns, cultivated terraces and high Andean peaks, with a chance to stop at archaeological sites along the way. Transfer to **José Antonio Hotel** for 2 nights. (B, L)

#### Weather

Lima



A: Maximum average temperature (C) B: Minimum average temperature (C) C: Average rainfall (mm)

#### Area map





Uros reed islands, Lake Titicaca

#### Day 9: Lake Titicaca

Visit the floating Uros reed islands and Taquile island on a full-day tour with a home-cooked lunch prepared by a local family. In the evening enjoy a farewell dinner at a traditional restaurant. (B, L, D)

#### Days 10-11: Fly to London via Lima

Transfer to Juliaca airport for a flight to Lima and on to London with British Airways. (B) (N)

Meal basis: As per itinerary - B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

#### **Extensions**

#### Peruvian Amazon + tour

4 days & 3 nights from £825 Tour code: PSGPEM

Before the tour it is possible to explore the natural wonders of the Peruvian Amazon in the area around Puerto Maldonado. Stay in a jungle lodge and seek out toucans, black caimans, giant otters and monkeys.

#### Day 1: Fly to Lima

Fly from London (regional connections available) to Lima with British Airways and overnight at the Wyndham Costa del Sol Airport Hotel. (N)

#### Days 2-3: Fly to The Amazon

Fly to Puerto Maldonado and take a boat to the Inkaterra Hacienda Concepcion for 2 nights (individual bungalow). Explore the unique rainforest ecosystem on shared excursions

provided by the lodge. (B, L, D)

#### Day 4: Fly to Lima

Return to Puerto Maldonado and fly to Lima to join the group. (B)

#### Important information

Solo Travellers group tours: These small group tours have been specially created for single travellers. Benefits include single occupancy of double / twin rooms as standard and at sensible prices, plus the company of like-minded travellers. View the complete

collection at CoxandKings.co.uk/solo-travellers

**Itinerary:** The order of the itinerary is designed to allow gradual adjustment to the altitude while taking in the key sights

\*Optional rail journey: On day 8 it is possible to travel to Puno aboard the stylish *Titicaca* train (see page 18). The journey takes just over 10 hours and does not include stops at archaeological sites. A three-course lunch and afternoon tea are served on board. The supplement to take the train is from £165.

#### **Guideline prices for 2020-21**

#### Group tour

Low season from £2,495 Guide price months: Oct

#### **British Airways flight upgrades**

World Traveller Plus from £695 return Club World from £2,295 return

Tour code: PSG

#### High season from £2,595 Guide price months: May - Sep

#### Regional air connections

Prices on request. British Airways to / from Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Manchester, Newcastle or Belfast

The guideline tour prices are all per person in UK pounds, based on single occupancy of a twin / double room. For current prices for all departure dates, including special offers when applicable, please call 020 3627 3097 or visit CoxandKings.co.uk. All prices are subject to availability.

#### Departure dates for 2020-21

Out (Wed)	Rtn (Sat)	Out (Wed)	Rtn (Sat)	Out (Wed)	Rtn (Sat)
29 Apr 20	09 May 20	09 Sep 20	19 Sep 20	28 Apr 21	08 May 21
27 May 20	06 Jun 20	07 Oct 20	17 Oct 20		

# A Belmond Andean Explorer Rail Journey

**Duration** • 11 days & 9 nights **Category** • Luxury

**Private tour •** From £3,595 (incl. flights)

#### **Tour overview**

Explore Peru's many wonders in ultimate style and comfort aboard South America's only luxury sleeper train. Begin the tour with explorations of Lima and the spectacular Inca ruins of the Sacred Valley and Machu Picchu before boarding the *Belmond Andean Explorer* train. This magnificent rail journey traverses the Andes from Cuzco, the former capital of the Inca empire, to the shores of Lake Titicaca and on to the 'White City' of Arequipa, offering a true once-in-a-lifetime experience.

#### This private tour features...

- Luxurious & characterful accommodation
- Direct international flights with British Airways
- Internal flights
- Guided sightseeing & entrance fees
- Transfers in air-conditioned vehicles
- Porterage at airports & stations
- Room & cabin upgrades available

#### **C&K** Signature experiences

- Stay overnight at Machu Picchu
- Opulent sleeper train journey across the Andes
- Explore the islands of Lake Titicaca & meet the people who inhabit them

#### Area map





Belmond Andean Explorer

#### Day 1: Fly to Lima

Fly from London (regional connections available) to Lima with British Airways and transfer to the boutique **Atemporal** for an overnight stay. (N)

#### Day 2: Fly to Cuzco • Sacred Valley

Morning tour of Lima's colonial centre. Afternoon flight to Cuzco and continue to the Sacred Valley for a 2-night stay at the **Inkaterra Hacienda Urubamba**, offering superb views of the valley. (B)

#### **Day 3: Sacred Valley**

Visit the Inca fortress of Ollantaytambo, an astounding feat of construction and ingenuity. Afternoon at leisure or take an optional tour to a local community, the Maras salt flats or the circular terraces at Moray. (B)

#### Day 4: Machu Picchu

Drive to Ollanta and take the *Vistadome* train to Machu Picchu (or upgrade to the *Belmond Hiram Bingham* train). Tour the spectacular ruins and stay overnight at the **Sumaq** / **Inkaterra Machu Picchu**. (B, L, D)

#### Dav 5: Cuzco

Morning at leisure or further explore Machu Picchu (purchase ticket at time of booking). Return by rail to Cuzco and transfer to the Palacio del Inka, a Luxury Collection Hotel, for 2 nights. Upgrade to the Belmond Hotel Monasterio from £135. (B)

#### Day 6: Cuzco

Half-day tour of Cuzco, including the cathedral and the impressive Inca temple of Koricancha. (B)

#### Day 7: Luxury train to Lake Titicaca

Board the luxurious *Belmond Andean Explorer* for a 2-night journey to Arequipa via Lake Titicaca. Relax over lunch as you pass high Andean peaks, mountain streams and cultivated terraces. Stop off at the pre-Incan site of Rachi and watch the sun set over La Raya mountain range. Enjoy a carefully designed three-course

dinner with local ingredients and overnight in a bunk-bed cabin (upgrades available). (B, L, D)

#### Day 8: Lake Titicaca • Luxury train to Arequipa

Watch the sun rise over Lake Titicaca before a full-day visit to the floating Uros reed islands and Taquile to discover traditional music and ancient weaving techniques. In the evening, the train continues on its journey. (B, L, D)

#### Day 9: Arequipa • Fly to Lima

Wake to spellbinding views of Lake Lagunillas. Visit ancient rock paintings, spot vicuñas and soak up spectacular views of volcanoes and altiplano scenery on the final leg to Arequipa. Brief panoramic tour of the 'White City' before flying to Lima for a final night at the **Atemporal**. (B, L)

#### Days 10-11: Fly to London

Fly to London with British Airways, arriving the next day. (B) (N)

**Meal basis:** As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

#### **Extension**

#### Tour + Colca & Arequipa

6 days & 4 nights from £625 Tour code: BLUCOL

Extend your journey with a stay in beautiful Arequipa and stop at Colca, one of the deepest canyons in the world.

#### Day 9: Colca Canyon

Disembark the train at Cañahuas and continue to the Colca Valley for an overnight stay at the **Belmond Las Casitas**. Afternoon at leisure. (B, L) **Days 10-11: Arequipa** 

Early morning visit to the rim of the canyon to see majestic Andean condors in flight. Continue to Arequipa and stay for 2 nights at **Katari Hotel** (or upgrade to **Cirqa**). Tour the city's fine colonial architecture. (B, L)

#### Days 12-14: Fly to London via Lima

Fly to Lima for a final night and on to London with British Airways. (B, N)

#### **Guideline prices for 2020**

Tour code: BLU

Low season from £3,595 Guide price months: Feb, Nov

High season from £3,795 Guide price months: May – Sep

# Peru in Luxury

**Duration** • 11 days & 9 nights **Category** • Luxury

#### **Tour overview**

This private journey offers the chance to explore Peru in ultimate style and comfort, staying in the country's finest hotels and travelling to Machu Picchu aboard a first-class train. The itinerary has been designed to combine Peru's ancient, colonial and scenic highlights and allows time in each of the destinations to explore the sites and enjoy the luxurious surroundings.

#### This private tour features...

- 5-star Belmond accommodation
- Direct international flights with British Airways
- Internal flights
- Guided sightseeing & entrance fees
- Transfers in air-conditioned vehicles
- Flexible flight & room upgrades available
- Porterage at airports

#### **C&K** Signature experiences

- Privileged overnight stay next to the Machu Picchu citadel
- ❖ Travel on first-class trains\*
- Room with stunning views over the Pacific ocean
- Stay at a restored 16th-century monastery

#### Area map



Private tour • From £3,495 (incl. flights)



Belmond Hotel Monasterio, Cuzco

#### Day 1: Fly to Lima

Fly from London to Lima direct with British Airways and transfer to the **Belmond Miraflores Park** (ocean-view room) for 2 nights. (N)

#### Day 2: Lima

Morning city tour, including a visit to a local vegetable market, the colonial Casa de Aliaga and a stop at the historic Cordano's Tavern. (B)

#### Day 3: Fly to Cuzco • The Sacred Valley

Morning flight to Cuzco. Transfer to the Sacred Valley, with its wealth of Inca sites and great natural beauty. Stop for a weaving demonstration at Chinchero en route and stay at Belmond Hotel Rio Sagrado for 2 nights. (B)

#### Day 4: The Sacred Valley

In the morning, tour the fortress of Ollantaytambo. The afternoon is at leisure to relax on your private terrace or explore the surroundings. (B)

#### Day 5: Machu Picchu

Travel to Machu Picchu aboard the *Vistadome / 360° Machu Picchu* train\*. Take an afternoon tour of the ruins and stay overnight at the **Belmond Sanctuary Lodge** (Standard room, upgrades available). (B, L, D)

#### Day 6: Cuzco

Day at leisure or explore Machu Picchu with optional hikes to various viewing points (purchase at the time of booking). In the evening, return by train to Cuzco and transfer to the **Belmond Hotel Monasterio**<sup>†</sup> for 2 nights. (B)

#### Day 7: Cuzco

Morning tour of the city and the ceremonial Inca site of Sacsayhuamán, which offers great views across the valley. Afternoon at leisure. (B)

#### av 8: Puno

Board the stylish *Titicaca* train for a 10-hour scenic journey to Puno. Lunch is served with a classic pisco sour cocktail as you travel across the high plains. Stay at the **Libertador**<sup>†</sup> on the shore of Lake Titicaca for 2 nights. (B, L)

#### Day 9: Lake Titicaca

Full-day visit to Taquile island and the floating Uros reed islands of Lake Titicaca. (B, L)

#### Days 10-11: Fly to London via Lima

Morning at leisure or an optional visit to the Sillustani graves. Fly to Lima and on to London, arriving the following day. (B) (N)

**Meal basis:** As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

#### Important information

\* Rail journey: It is possible to further upgrade to the classic PeruRail Sacred Valley train (from £125) or the luxury Belmond Hiram Bingham train from £525

<sup>†</sup> **Accommodation:** Upgrade to the **Belmond Palacio Nazarenas** in Cuzco from £145 per person and to **Titilaka** at Lake Titicaca based on full board from £685 per person.

#### **Guideline prices for 2020**

Tour code: LTP

Low season from £3,495 Guide price months: Feb, Nov

High season from £3,695 Guide price months: May – Sep

# Belmond Peru Hotels

This is a selection of our recommended accommodation. Please see our website for more options.

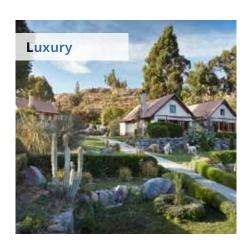


#### Belmond Miraflores Park, Lima

First-class service, luxurious guestrooms and a stunning location sets the Belmond Miraflores Park apart from other properties in Lima. The hotel offers spectacular views of the Pacific Ocean and is just a short walk from the lively clifftop restaurants and shops of Miraflores. The gourmet Tragaluz restaurant serves Asian, Mediterranean and Peruvian flavours. Daily afternoon tea is served in the lobby.

#### Features:

89 suites, 2 restaurants, bar, heated rooftop pool, gym, spa, Wi-Fi.



#### Belmond Las Casitas, Colca Canyon

Belmond Las Casitas offers a serene retreat in the heart of the Colca Canyon. The individual cottages are decorated in rich local style and feature luxurious accommodation in beautiful natural surroundings, each with a private terrace and heated plunge pool, fireplace and bathtub under a glass ceiling. Try an outdoor activity or relax with an Andean treatment at the indulgent spa.

#### Features:

20 casitas, dining room, spa, swimming pool, organic garden, Wi-Fi.



#### Belmond Hotel Monasterio, Cuzco

The Belmond Monasterio, once a 16th-century Jesuit monastery, is now one of the world's most atmospheric hotels. Located in the heart of Cuzco, this property is set around a delightful central courtyard. Each individually designed room is decorated using the finest Spanish and Inca designs and materials. The gourmet Peruvian restaurant and bar feature colonial-period Cuzco art and antiques.

#### Features

122 rooms & suites, 2 restaurants, bar, spa service, Wi-Fi.



#### Belmond Hotel Rio Sagrado, Sacred Valley

The Belmond Hotel Rio Sagrado is set in the Sacred Valley of the Incas, surrounded by gardens and overlooking the Urubamba river. The luxurious rooms, suites and villas are all exquisitely furnished. Relax in the renowned Mayu Wilka spa, enjoy first-class Peruvian cuisine in the restaurant or on the terrace, or have a delicious picnic prepared by the hotel chefs.

#### Features:

23 rooms & suites, restaurant, bar, spa, heated outdoor pool, Wi-Fi.

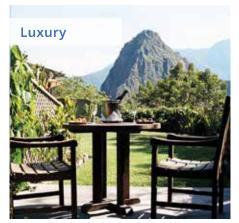


#### Belmond Palacio Nazarenas, Cuzco

Carefully restored from a former Inca palace and convent, the exclusive Belmond Palacio Nazarenas is located in a quiet plaza close to Cuzco's main square. Colonial heritage blends with contemporary luxury and the stylish oxygen-enriched suites offer marble bathrooms with underfloor heating. The hotel offers exquisite local cuisine, a luxurious spa and the first outdoor pool in town.

#### Features:

55 suites, restaurant, bar, spa, heated outdoor pool, butler service, Wi-Fi.



#### Belmond Sanctuary Lodge, Machu Picchu

Perched on the mountainside next to the Inca citadel, the Belmond Sanctuary Lodge is the only hotel that is situated next to the entrance of the ancient ruins. Rooms are decorated with local furniture and some have terraces leading onto orchid gardens with views of the surrounding mountains and tropical forest. Enjoy spectacular sunrises and magical evenings in this atmospheric location.

#### Features:

31 rooms & suites, restaurant, bar, spa service, orchid garden, Wi-Fi.

# Peru Hotel Collection

This is a selection of our recommended accommodation. Please see our website for more options.



#### Atemporal, Lima

Atemporal is an intimate boutique hotel located on a quiet street in Miraflores, near award-winning restaurants. Set in a beautifully renovated 1940s mansion, it offers nine rooms decorated with contemporary artwork and Peruvian artefacts. There is a terrace and small garden for guests to enjoy the homely and relaxed atmosphere, and a complimentary chauffeur service to nearby locations.

#### Features:

9 rooms, veranda, garden, concierge service, Wi-Fi.



#### Sumag Machu Picchu Hotel

Sumaq ('beautiful' in Quechua) is set right on the edge of Aguas Calientes with unspoilt views of the valley. The rooms combine dark woods with traditional Peruvian fabrics. The stylish interiors, welcoming service and exquisite local dishes make the hotel one of the finest options for an overnight stay at Machu Picchu. Guests can enjoy pisco sour and ceviche demonstrations.

#### Features:

62 rooms & suites, gourmet restaurant, bar, spa, Wi-Fi.



#### Casa Andina Premium Miraflores, Lima

The Casa Andina Premium in Lima is a stylish hotel ideally located in the heart of the fashionable Miraflores district, a short walk from Kennedy Park. Guestrooms are all individually decorated with local Peruvian textiles and artworks, and are furnished with modern amenities. The restaurant serves local and international cuisine and there is a heated covered swimming pool.

#### Features:

148 rooms, restaurant, bar, cafe, swimming pool, spa, gym, Wi-Fi.



#### Palacio del Inka, a Luxury Collection Hotel, Cuzco

The Palacio del Inka, part of the Libertador Luxury Collection, occupies the Casa de los Cuatro Bustos where Francisco Pizarro once lived and is ideally located in the historic centre of Cuzco. The hotel offers stylish rooms and suites while facilities include a restaurant overlooking the main colonial patio, a bar with an original Inca wall and a large spa.

#### Features:

203 rooms & suites, restaurant, bar, spa, gym, Wi-Fi.



#### Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel

Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel is set beside the Urubamba river amid fragrant cloud forest gardens, home to almost 400 species of orchid and abundant birdlife. Scattered across the hillside, the attractively decorated guestrooms are located in Andean village-style cottages nestled amid the gardens. Machu Picchu is 30 minutes by shuttle bus while the train station is just a short walk away.

#### Features:

81 rooms & suites, river-view restaurant, bar, cafe, spa, Wi-Fi.



#### Inkaterra La Casona, Cuzco

Inkaterra's luxury boutique hotel, La Casona, is a meticulously restored colonial mansion house, once occupied by the conquistadores. A tranquil oasis close to Cuzco's vibrant main square, it has just 11 suites built around an inner courtyard and retains an atmosphere of exclusivity. Combining modern luxury with authentic decor, each room is furnished with antiques and a stone fireplace.

#### Features:

11 suites, lounge, dining room with terrace, spa, Wi-Fi.

# Peru Hotel Collection

This is a selection of our recommended accommodation. Please see our website for more options.

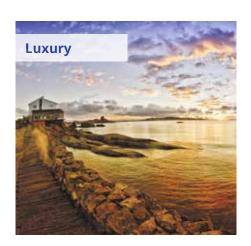


#### Casa Andina Premium, Cuzco

Occupying an 18th-century mansion, this charming hotel is located in the colonial old part of Cuzco, just a few blocks' walk from the main plaza. The hotel's rooms combine elegant furnishings with modern comforts and overlook picturesque courtyards. There is a central patio with fountain, a colonial bar and a stylish restaurant decorated with traditional Cuzco paintings.

#### Features:

93 rooms, restaurant, bar, massage room, ATM, Wi-Fi.

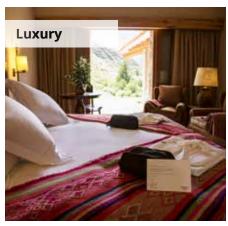


#### Titilaka Lodge, Lake Titicaca

A luxurious refuge on the shores of Lake Titicaca, Titilaka Lodge is set on a secluded private peninsula, 45 minutes' drive from Puno. The hotel features modern architecture fused with indigenous touches and works of art, and all lake-view suites have spa bathrooms. Relax in the spacious, airy lounges or on the wrap-around terraces and enjoy contemporary Peruvian cuisine in the dining room.

#### Features:

18 suites, dining room, bar, massage room, private jetty, boat house.



#### Inkaterra Hacienda Urubamba, Sacred Valley

This hacienda-style Inkaterra property combines contemporary and colonial design with luxurious decor and locally sourced furnishings and textiles. Rooms and public areas all enjoy beautiful views of the Sacred Valley, while the extensive grounds include a vegetable garden, providing ingredients for the gourmet cuisine.

#### Features:

 $36\ rooms\ \&\ suites,\ dining\ room\ with\ terrace,\ bar,\ spa,\ Wi-Fi.$ 



#### GHL Hotel Lago Titicaca, Puno

The GHL Hotel Lago Titicaca is situated on the peninsula of Isla Esteves. The spectacular panoramic views over the lake mean it is well positioned to enjoy beautiful sunrises and sunsets. This modern hotel offers spacious lake-view rooms, a bar and a restaurant serving Peruvian and international dishes. The hotel is an excellent base for explorations of the lake and is a short drive from the town of Puno.

#### Features:

123 rooms, bar, restaurant, sauna, jacuzzi, gym, Wi-Fi.



#### Casa Andina Premium, Sacred Valley

Located near the village of Yanahuara, this mountain chalet-style retreat is surrounded by dramatic Andean peaks and remnants of the Inca civilisation. The comfortable rooms with tranquil valley and mountain views are situated in two-storey red-roofed blocks amid the pretty terraces and landscaped gardens. Public areas include an onsite planetarium, from where it is possible to view the southern constellations.

#### Features:

92 rooms, 4 cottages, restaurant-bar, snack shop, gym, spa, Wi-Fi.



#### Cirqa, Arequipa

Dating back to 1540, this new and beautifully restored parador has maintained the original volcanic rock arches and columns. Located just a block from the main square, it offers superb views of the cathedral and the snow-capped El Misti volcano from its rooftop restaurant. Elegantly furnished and well-appointed rooms are set around two interior patios and feature original high-vaulted ceilings.

#### **Features:**

11 rooms, restaurant, lounge, plunge pool, spa facilities, Wi-Fi.

# Peru & Bolivia Hotel Collection

This is a selection of our recommended accommodation. Please see our website for more options.



#### Aranwa, Colca Canyon

Aranwa Colca is situated on the banks of the Colca river, 10 minutes from the village of Chivay. Built in a contemporary Andean style, the rooms, suites and chalets have views towards the mountains. The restaurant and bar overlook the river and offer cuisine using Andean flavours and many locally grown ingredients. Amid the grounds are waterfalls, a watermill and trout pools.

#### Features:

41 rooms, restaurant, bar, indoor & outdoor swimming pool, spa.



#### Parador Santa Maria la Real, Sucre

The charming Parador Santa Maria la Real is located in the heart of Sucre and close to the main square. The colonial hotel features exposed brickwork, vaulted ceilings, tiled floors and religious artworks, interspersed with colourful courtyards. Spacious rooms and suites are individually decorated with antique furnishings, while the roof terrace offers panoramic views over the red roofs of the city.

#### Features:

39 rooms, restaurant, roof terrace, Wi-Fi.



#### Hotel Paracas, a Luxury Collection Resort, Paracas

This resort-style property is located in Paracas Bay, which makes it an ideal base for visiting the mysterious Nazca Lines, seeing the marine life of the Ballestas Islands or just relaxing by the beach. The modern and elegant rooms, set in two-storey white bungalows within expansive gardens, all feature a private balcony or terrace.

#### Features:

120 rooms, 2 swimming pools, 3 restaurants, 2 bars, spa, Wi-Fi.



#### Luna Salada Hotel, Salar de Uyuni

The Luna Salada salt hotel is located on the banks of the huge expanse of Salar de Uyuni and is made almost entirely of salt blocks, right down to the tables and chairs – a truly unique and bizarre experience. The spacious common areas and restaurant feature Bolivian textiles and offer panoramic views of the salt flats, a particularly good spot to enjoy the vivid pink sunsets over the white plains.

#### **Features:**

49 rooms, restaurant, bar, cafe, spa, Wi-Fi.



#### Arennas Máncora, Máncora

The Arennas Máncora hotel is set on a long sandy beach just 20 minutes from Mancora on Peru's northern coast. Guestrooms feature stylish decor in neutral tones, and each has its own private terrace with a garden or ocean view. The gourmet restaurant serves a creative menu of Peruvian and international cuisine, with plenty of fresh seafood. Unwind by one of the pools or take a sunset walk along the beach.

#### Features:

22 rooms, 2 swimming pools, restaurant, bar, Wi-Fi.



#### La Casona Hotel Boutique, La Paz

La Casona Hotel Boutique is situated in the heart of downtown La Paz, within walking distance of the main churches, market and main plaza. This converted colonial property contains original 17th-century features including an interior courtyard with a fountain and attractive exposed stonework, wooden beams and colourful walls. Rooms have a modern decor with parquet floors.

#### Features:

45 rooms, restaurant, bar, terrace Wi-Fi.

# Discover Bolivia



Teleférico cable car. La Paz

## 

## La Paz & Surrounds

#### Witches' market • Teleférico • Valley of the Moon

Bustling La Paz is surrounded by high mountains, including snow-capped Mount Illimani. Colonial and modern buildings are interspersed with street markets, including the fascinating witches' market, where products for indigenous rituals are sold alongside traditional handicrafts. Take the panoramic Teleférico cable car for a bird's-eye view over the city or explore the bizarre sandstone formations of the nearby Valley of the Moon.

## Salar de Uyuni & Altiplano

#### Salt flats • Stay in a salt hotel

The world's largest salt flat, Salar de Uyuni is an otherworldly place with stunning scenery. Marvel at the contrast of brilliant white against clear blue sky and watch the horizon disappear after rains – the surface reflects the sky and clouds leaving little cactus-covered 'islands' to break up the shimmering expanse. This surreal beauty is best experienced by staying in one of the salt hotels, constructed entirely from salt blocks.

## Lake Titicaca

#### Traditional communities • Sacred floating islands

Beautiful, sapphire-blue Lake Titicaca is home to small, traditional Aymara fishing and farming communities that dot the shores and little islands. Take a day trip from La Paz, or explore on a 2-day visit to best experience this magical place. Picturesque lakeside Copacabana is famous for its 16th-century shrine, while the Sun and Moon Islands, the birthplace of the Inca empire, have Incan ruins and sites of sacred importance. At Huatajata, visit the small Altiplano Museum.

## Sucre & Potosí

#### Colonial architecture • Silver workshops

Sucre, the constitutional capital and a Unesco world heritage site, is a beautiful city of whitewashed colonial buildings and 16th-century churches. The silver-mining town of Potosí was once the wealthiest city in the Americas due to the silver deposits in Cerro Rico, the 'hill of riches', which dominates its skyline. Marvel at its grand churches and colonial buildings, and visit the National Mint and the workshop of a silversmith.

#### A suggested itinerary...

#### **Bolivia Explorer**

13 days & 10 nights from £4,195 Category • Standard

Designed for more adventurous travellers, this journey discovers Bolivia's many and varied highlights.

**Days 1-2: Fly to Santa Cruz via Madrid** Fly to Santa Cruz. Stay overnight and take a city tour. (B)

#### Day 3: Fly to Sucre

Fly to Sucre. Stay 3 nights in a character hotel. (B)

#### Days 4-5: Sucre

Explore the city. Visit Tarabuco market or the village of Potolo. (B)

#### Days 6-7: Salar de Uyuni

Drive to Salar de Uyuni, visiting the city of Potosí en route. Stay 2 nights in a salt hotel and explore the salt flats by 4x4. Option to camp or stay in a **Deluxe Airstream Camper**.

#### Days 8-9: Fly to La Paz • Lake Titicaca

Fly to La Paz and transfer to Lake Titicaca for 2 nights, via the Tiwanaku ruins. Explore the lake and its islands. (B, D)

#### Days 10-11: La Paz

Transfer to La Paz for 2 nights and take a guided tour of the city. (B)

#### Days 12-13: Fly home via Madrid (B) (N)

**Guideline Prices** (incl. flights) Low season from: £4,195 (Jan – Feb) High season from: £4,295 (May, Sep – Oct)

Tour code: BXP



## Experiences in Bolivia



#### Tiwanaku ruins

Two hours' drive from La Paz, this pre-Columbian ceremonial site can easily be visited on a day trip. The ancient Tiwanaku thrived for over a millennium and built a powerful city, yet much of their origin and demise remain shrouded in mystery. Discover giant stone blocks and statues, some with unusual faces and geometric shapes, stepped platforms and the Sun Gate, a monolithic stone doorway inscribed with numerous carvings.



#### Deluxe Airstream Camper, Uyuni

This unique travel concept allows for fully-tailored trips and amazing experiences across a remote area. Take in the beauty of the salt flats from the luxury of your very own private retro-style Airstream camper, complete with a driver-guide and private chef. Marvel at the sunset over the endless white expanse as you enjoy dinner, before being left in solitude to gaze up at the vast night sky above.



#### Southern Altiplano 4x4 explorations

Bolivia's southern altiplano between the salt flats and the Chilean border is remote and fascinating to explore. Surreal rock formations and multi-coloured sand dunes in the barren and windswept Siloli desert are set against a backdrop of volcanic peaks and vast skies. Discover mineral-rich lakes such as the emerald-green Laguna Verde or the red Laguna Colorada, home to rare flamingoes, and marvel at the spectacular fumaroles of the Sol de Mañana geysers.



#### Hydrofoil cruise across Lake Titicaca

Varying in size, the hydrofoils of Lake Titicaca allow for longer scenic journeys between Huatajata and Copacabana. Take in the serenity of the lake and visit the sacred Sun and Moon Islands along the way with an option to overnight on Sun Island, return to La Paz or continue overland to Peru. A new deluxe hydrofoil with spacious interiors, traditional textiles and an exclusively customised programme can be chartered for up to six guests.



#### Tarabuco indigenous market

Rural Tarabuco, two hours south-east of Sucre, is known for its colourful market. On Sundays, villagers from surrounding communities, renowned for their diverse and vibrant traditional dresses and hats, come to trade fresh produce, household goods, local textiles, ceramics and paintings. This fascinating cultural experience also provides an opportunity to buy traditional Andean handicrafts.



#### Off-the-beaten-track Bolivia

In the eastern lowlands around Santa Cruz, discover the fascinating history of former Jesuit mission towns, the pre-Inca ruins of Samaipata or the unspoilt natural beauty of the Amboro National Park, ideal for hiking and birding. Madidi National Park in the Amazon basin is a biodiversity hotspot with largely untouched forest and countless endemic species. Stay in a rustic ecolodge and take jungle walks or canoe rides in search of wildlife.





# Ecuador & the Galapagos

Tailor-made travel • Cruises • Rail journeys

Ecuador offers wonderful variety for the traveller. The Andean highlands feature beautiful colonial cities, snow-capped volcanoes, historic haciendas and colourful, authentic markets. Highlights include the tropical Amazon rainforest, cloud forests rich in flora and fauna, and a restored heritage train travelling from the Andean highlands down to the coast. Due to its relatively small geographical size, a comprehensive tour of this delightful country is easy to arrange.

Less than 1,000km west of the mainland lie the Galapagos islands. The natural wonders of these islands once inspired Charles Darwin's theory of evolution. These remote volcanic outcrops consist of 13 major and 12 minor islands inhabited by unique species of animals, plants and marine life that have evolved without influence from the mainland. Access to the Galapagos from mainland Ecuador is via the local airports on Baltra and San Cristóbal.

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#### Small group & private tour

Peru & Galapagos: Conquistadores, Incas & Islands • Group or private

#### Places to stay - our suggestions

Galapagos cruisers

50 Ecuador hotels & haciendas, lodges & Amazon cruisers

#### Climate

The central sierra, which forms the spine of Ecuador, is at high altitude, but temperatures are always mild due to the equatorial location. The Galapagos islands have two distinct seasons: the hot and rainy season (usually short heavy showers) falls between January and April while the drier season is from May to December.

#### Quito

	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	21	20	20	20	20	20	20	21	21	20	20	21
В	3	3	3	4	4	3	3	2	2	3	3	3
C	121	143	158	174	128	64	30	38	82	132	127	109

#### San Cristóbal (Galapagos)

	J	F	М	А	M	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	28	30	30	30	28	27	25	24	24	24	25	26
В	18	19	18	19	18	17	16	15	15	15	16	16
c	178	146	170	156	79	106	115	80	86	67	72	130

Key: A: Maximum average temperature (C) B: Minimum average temperature (C) C: Average rainfall (mm)

Inspired to venture further afield? Browse our website to discover additional destinations, places to stay and itineraries; or speak to our Latin America experts.



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# Discover Ecuador



Middle of the World monument, Quito



## Quito

#### Colonial heritage • Middle of the World monument

The capital city of Quito lies in an Andean valley overlooked by the towering Pichincha volcano. The historic old town provides an insight into the Spanish colonial history of Ecuador with plazas and narrow streets filled with beautiful churches, monasteries and restored buildings. Hotels include both modern properties and charming boutique options. North of the city, visit the Middle of the World monument that marks the equatorial line.

## Avenue of the Volcanoes

## Cotopaxi National Park • Local markets & haciendas • Devil's Nose train ride

Fertile valleys, patchwork fields and snow-capped volcanic peaks form a chain south of Quito along the Avenue of the Volcanoes. Venture into Cotopaxi National Park, home to the world's highest active volcano, discover the emerald-green Quilotoa crater lake and explore small villages with colourful weekly markets. Continue south to the lively trading town of Riobamba and onto Alausi for an exciting train ride along the switchbacks of the Devil's Nose.

## The Amazon

#### Local Amazonian communities • Exotic flora & fauna

The Ecuadorian Amazon can be explored on a superior river cruise or from a number of remote rainforest lodges, many only accessible by light aircraft or river. A wide variety of wildlife may be spotted, such as monkeys, frogs, caimans, river dolphins and abundant birdlife including many parrot and parakeet species. Excursions include nature walks, boat rides, visits to clay licks and canopy walkways as well as opportunities to visit local communities.

## Cuenca & Surrounds

## Colonial heritage • Ingapirca Inca archaeological site • Cajas National Park

Considered the most beautiful city in Ecuador, Cuenca is a Unesco world heritage site with cobbled streets, colonial plazas, numerous cathedrals and delightful boutique hotels housed in 19th-century mansions. Nearby small towns produce intricate copper, leather and textile pieces as well as traditional panama hats. It is also possible to visit the Inca ruins of Ingapirca or travel through the moorland of the Cajas National Park.

#### A suggested itinerary...

#### **Classic Ecuador**

12 days & 9 nights from £4,595

Category • Superior

Explore the highlights of mainland Ecuador and take a cruise to see the unique wildlife of the Galapagos islands.

Day 1: Fly to Quito via Bogotá (N) Days 2-3: Quito

Morning arrival and transfer to your hotel for a 2-night stay. Take a city tour. (B)

Day 4: Cotopaxi • Riobamba

Visit Cotopaxi National Park and continue

south to Riobamba. Stay overnight. (B, L, D) **Day 5: Ingapirca • Cuenca** 

Drive to Alausi. Ride the switchback train along the Devil's Nose. Continue by road via Ingapirca to Cuenca. Stay 2 nights. (B, L, D)

Day 6: Cuenca

Explore the quaint streets of colonial Cuenca and nearby artisan villages. (B, L)

Day 7: Cajas • Guayaquil

Travel by road via Cajas National Park to Guayaquil and stay overnight. (B)

Days 8-10: Fly to the Galapagos

Fly to the Galapagos islands for a 3-night cruise. (B, L, D)

Days 11-12: Fly home via Guayaquil and Bogotá (B) (N)

**Extensions:** It is possible to extend your time in the Galapagos or the Cotopaxi area.

Guideline Prices (incl. flights)

Low season from: £4,595 (Jan – Mar) High season from: £4,695 (May – Sep)

Tour code: CLE



## **Experiences in Ecuador**



#### Quito like a local

This experiential tour gives a great insight into local traditions and the richness of the capital city. Meet local artisans and hat makers in their workshops while wandering through the streets of the old town and learn about Ecuador's finest chocolate. Watch vendors selling fresh fruit, vegetables and herbal medicine in one of the oldest markets and finish with a lunch of Ecuadorian specialities at a historic hotel.



#### Cuenca's colonial heritage

Stroll along the cobbled streets of charming Cuenca and admire the red-roofed colonial houses, graceful iron balconies, flower-filled plazas and courtyards, and religious art treasures reminiscent of the long association with Spain. The Tomebamba river winds in and out of the city's centre and ornate wooden 'hanging houses' jut out over its banks. Dominating the main plaza is the New Cathedral, a red-brick construction with distinctive blue domes.



#### Ecuador's cloud forest

The cloud forests of Ecuador are superb biodiversity destinations and have one of the largest concentrations of bird species in the world, particularly hummingbirds, as well as an abundance of beautiful orchids, bromeliads and butterflies. The Mindo-Nambillo reserve, an hour north of Quito, can be visited on a full-day trip from the capital, while Mashpi offers a luxury eco-lodge experience (see page 51).



#### Otavalo market

Surrounded by verdant valleys and hills, the small town of Otavalo is a 3-hour drive north of Quito and home to one of the largest outdoor indigenous markets in South America. Local Otavaleño people wear distinctive blue clothing and trade their wares at this daily market. Browse through numerous stalls with brightly coloured textiles, handwoven ponchos and hats, leather goods and wood-carved handicrafts.



#### Ecuador by train

Ecuador's 100-year-old railway has been revived to offer 1- to 4-day scenic journeys from the Andean highlands, past majestic volcanoes and sugar and banana plantations, to the coastal plains, including the switchbacks of the Devil's Nose. *Tren Crucero* has beautifully refurbished carriages, pulled part of the way by a 20th-century steam locomotive. The experience includes overnight stays in traditional haciendas or hotels and guided side trips.



#### Traditional haciendas

Historic haciendas are dotted throughout the countryside and provide an authentic Ecuadorian experience. Ranging from small family-run properties to large traditional working farms, these restored colonial properties are full of character. Stay at the beautiful **Hacienda Zuleta** or the 17th-century **La Cienega** (see page 50). Walk through manicured gardens and sample delicious traditional cuisine.

# Discover The Galapagos

This group of isolated islands along the equator lie in the Pacific Ocean, west of mainland Ecuador. The Galapagos have a unique environment of stark lava formations, cactus forests and lush highlands. In order to survive, the wildlife here has adapted by developing unique traits, resulting in many endemic species found nowhere else on Earth. Limited contact with people means that the varied wildlife has never learnt to fear humans, allowing for excellent observation at very close quarters and endless photo opportunities both on land and under water.

## Wildlife of the Galapagos

#### Giant tortoise

Once hunted as food for pirates and whalers, these enormous creatures are synonymous with the Galapagos and can be seen in their natural habitat in the misty highlands of Santa Cruz or at the breeding centre on San Cristóbal.

#### Galapagos albatross

With a remarkable wingspan of up to 2.5 metres, the albatross is the largest bird of the Galapagos and is found almost exclusively on Española island. If lucky, visitors can catch a glimpse of their spectacular courtship display of circling and clacking their beaks.

#### Flightless cormorant

The impressive diving and fishing skills of the flightless cormorant are a wonderful spectacle. Having lost the ability to fly due to a lack of natural predators, it has developed an almost fur-like plumage, increasing its efficiency under water.



Giant tortoise



Frigatebird

#### Blue-footed, red-footed & Nazca boobies

The brightly coloured feet of the blue- and red-footed boobies make them easily spotted and are important features they show off during their elaborate mating ritual dance. Nazca boobies are identified by their conspicuous white plumage and black 'mask' around their eyes.

#### Frigatebird

Found primarily on San Cristóbal, Española and Genovesa islands, frigatebirds are known for the extraordinary sight of the males inflating their distinct bright red pouch into a heart-shaped balloon to attract females.

#### Marine iguana

The world's only marine iguanas have developed an incredible ability to 'sneeze' excess salt from their bodies in order to survive. Found only on the Galapagos archipelago, this amazing prehistoric-looking creature is often spotted basking in the sun on the shorelines of various islands.

#### Galapagos penguin

The endearing Galapagos penguin is the smallest and rarest of its species, and is the only penguin to live on the equator and to lay its eggs in lava tubes and crevices just above the highest tides.

#### Land iguana

These impressive large lizards can grow over a metre long and have a spiky crest running along the neck and back. They can survive without water for extended periods of time by feeding on succulent plants including prickly pears.

#### Galapagos marine life

The islands have a varied underwater world due to the mix of several oceanic currents. Dolphins, sea turtles, whales, and almost 450 species of tropical fish swim in these waters, while inquisitive sea lions and red Sally Lightfoot crabs can be seen on the lava rocks.



Land iguana



Floreana island

## A Year in the Galapagos

The Galapagos islands are a year-round destination with a variety of wildlife activities available throughout the seasons. In the first months of the year, the air and ocean waters are warmer and best for snorkelling. Days have plenty of sunshine and heavy but short tropical showers. From June to November, the trade winds bring the colder Humboldt current, making the open seas choppier. The temperatures are cooler, though still pleasantly warm, and the highlands are shrouded in garua mist. April to May and November to December are transition months for the archipelago, offering a favourable combination of weather, water temperatures and wildlife activity.

#### January

As the rains begin, many land birds start nesting. Green sea turtles arrive to lay their eggs and Española's marine iguanas change colour to display bright red and blue hues.

#### February

Sea temperatures reach their highest (25°C) and greater flamingoes, Galapagos doves and Nazca boobies nest. Marine iguanas start nesting on Santa Cruz.

Temperatures can reach 30°C and humidity is high, although rain showers remain sporadic. Marine iguanas nest on Fernandina and waved albatrosses arrive later in the month.

The islands are very lush and green. On Española, large numbers of waved albatrosses are courting, while hatching season for the giant tortoises comes to an end. Green turtle and land iguana eggs are hatching.

#### May

With clear skies overhead, the vegetation on more arid islands starts to turn brown. Blue-footed boobies begin their courtship, while waved albatrosses lay their eggs. Sea turtle and marine iguana eggs begin to hatch.

#### lune

The misty garua season begins. Giant tortoises migrate to the lowlands of Santa Cruz. Humpback whales and magnificent frigatebirds can be spotted in North Seymour.

#### July

A great time of year for birdwatching – blue-footed boobies and flightless cormorants are breeding and nesting. Lava lizards begin their mating rituals. Whales and dolphins can be spotted off Isabela's west coast.

#### **August**

The seas can turn choppy and waters are at their coolest (18°C). The first sea lion pups are born and frigatebird chicks start to hatch. Galapagos hawks begin to court and migrant shore birds arrive on the islands.

The best month to see sea lion pups and fighting among rival males. Galapagos penguins are courting and active on Bartolomé island, often swimming with snorkellers. Nesting seabirds remain active.

#### October

The garua still blankets the highlands. Lava herons begin to nest and blue-footed boobies raise their chicks. Giant tortoises are still laying eggs, while Galapagos fur seals start to mate.

#### November

Winds decrease, skies are clearer and seas are calm. Water temperatures start to rise and it is possible to snorkel close to curious young sea lions. Green turtles start to mate and brown noddies breed.

#### December

Lots of sunshine and warm temperatures mixed with tropical showers as the islands turn green. Baby giant tortoises begin to hatch and young waved albatrosses fledge. Sea lions, fur seals and iguanas breed.

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## Galapagos by Sea

Small, medium-sized & larger cruisers • Range of itineraries

The most popular way to explore the Galapagos is on an expedition cruise allowing for a wider range of destinations to be visited. Cruising between the islands is generally done at night, leaving the days free for visits. Daily shore excursions in small groups include guided walks to get up close to the resident wildlife and panga (small inflatable boat) rides that enable visitors to discover otherwise inaccessible mangrove estuaries and hidden coves around the islands.

Cox & Kings uses a selection of first-class vessels (see pages 48-49) that provide excellent service and expert guides. Itineraries range from 3 to 14 nights, with stops at a selection of islands to see the wide variety of wildlife. The bigger boats have the most comprehensive range of facilities, while those in the medium-size category accommodate fewer passengers and provide good facilities and personal service. The smaller boats have a more intimate atmosphere and are suited to those who prefer a more interactive cruise.



Sea turtle



Red-footed booby



Galapagos penguin

## C&K Recommends...

#### Snorkelling

Snorkelling provides further chances to explore the rich marine life and see the islands from a different perspective. Sharing the waters with playful sea lions, spotting green turtles, encountering a shoal of rays and being surrounded by colourful tropical fish is, for many, the highlight of a Galapagos adventure.

#### Nature treks

Nature treks are an excellent way to discover the unforgettable landscapes of the islands. Stroll through scalesia forests, hike round volcanic craters, walk among giant cacti and share the path with land iguanas, fur seals and birdlife. Many nature trails lead to hidden coves, remote beaches and spectacular viewpoints.

#### A suggested itinerary...

#### **Ecuador & Galapagos in Style**

11 days & 8 nights from £5,495 Category • Luxury

Take the trip of a lifetime and explore the famous Galapagos islands and the cloud forests of Ecuador in luxury.

#### Days 1-2: Fly to Quito via Bogotá

Fly overnight to Quito. Stay 2 nights at Casa Gangotena, a historic mansion. (N)

#### Day 3: Quito

Morning tour of Quito and the Middle of the

World equatorial line monument. (B) **Days 4-5: Mashpi** 

Transfer to Mashpi Lodge, located in a private cloud forest reserve, for 2 nights. Enjoy excursions including day and night walks along the forest trails. (B, L, D)

#### Day 6: Quito

Morning activities. Transfer to Quito and stay overnight at **Casa Gangotena**. (B)

#### Days 7-9: Fly to the Galapagos

Fly to the Galapagos islands for a 3-night cruise on a luxury catamaran or a small yacht. (B, L, D)

Days 10-11: Fly home via Guayaquil & Bogotá (B) (N)

**Guideline Prices** (incl. flights) Low season from: £5,495 (Feb – Mar) High season from: £5,695 (May – Jun)

Tour code: EGL



## Galapagos by Land

Range of hotels  $\mathcal{E}$  lodges • Land-based activities  $\mathcal{E}$  sea exploration • Galapagos island hopping

Four inhabited islands on the archipelago (Santa Cruz, Isabela, Floreana and San Cristóbal) offer a number of fixed accommodation options for those wanting to explore fewer islands in more depth. Lodge-based itineraries allow for better tailoring of visitors' experiences by choosing from a range of activities including wildlife observation, world-class snorkelling, exploring lava fields, fishing or relaxing on the beach.

Scenic inter-island flights have led to an increasingly popular multicentred concept of island hopping where guests overnight on two or more islands as opposed to circumnavigating aboard a cruiser and dropping anchor in different locations. This is best suited to those who prefer to return to the comfort of a hotel or lodge each night, avoiding long durations at sea and the daily schedules of a ship. By day, the natural wonders of the islands can be explored on boat excursions or on a variety of land-based activities. By night, sleep soundly on terra firma.



Sally Lightfoot crab



South Plaza island



Sea lion

## C&K Recommends...

#### Galapagos hotels

The environmentally friendly Finch Bay Eco Hotel on the island of Santa Cruz is nestled between mangroves and a small quiet bay, ideal for a beach and wildlife stay. For a luxury tented experience, we recommend the Galapagos Safari Camp in the highlands of Santa Cruz, with superb views of the island and ocean, or Scalesia Lodge on Isabela.

#### Galapagos for families

The Galapagos islands are a perfect family holiday destination. Itineraries can be tailor-made to include a cruise or a land-based stay and to suit all family members, ensuring quality time together. Older children can enjoy kayaking, snorkelling, stand-up paddle boarding and biking whereas younger ones can play on pristine beaches and spot wildlife.

#### A suggested itinerary...

#### Ecuador & Galapagos Experience

11 days & 8 nights from £4,395 Category • Superior

Discover historic Quito before encountering the unique beauty of the Galapagos islands and their abundant land and marine wildlife.

#### Days 1-4: Fly to Quito via Bogotá

Fly overnight to Quito for a stay of 3 nights. Take a city tour and visit the Middle of the

World monument. An option is available to visit the Avenue of the Volcanoes and Cotopaxi National Park or a colourful indigenous market. (B)

#### Days 5-8: Fly to Galapagos

Board a 4-night cruise and discover a variety of landscapes and wildlife including land iguanas, giant tortoises, Darwin's finches, boobies and flightless cormorants. Alternatively, opt for a two-centred lodge stay on Santa Cruz and Isabela islands (7 nights), or combine a cruise and lodge stay. (B, L, D)

#### Day 9: Fly to Guayaquil

Fly to Guayaquil for a final night. Optional visit to a cacao plantation. (B)

Days 10-11: Fly home via Bogotá (B) (N)

**Guideline Prices** (incl. flights) 11 days & 8 nights by sea from: £4,395 14 days & 11 nights by land from: £4,995

Tour code: EGS / FEC



# Galapagos Cruisers



Yacht La Pinta Sophisticated medium-sized yacht

Offering some of the highest standards of service in the islands, *La Pinta* is a luxury vessel with accommodation for 48 passengers in 24 stylish cabins. Facilities include a spacious dining room and lounge, conference room, shop, library, sun deck, solarium, jacuzzi, large observation lounge and a glass-bottom boat for viewing marine life.

Cruise duration: 4, 6, 8, 10 & 14 nights



**Isabela II** Traditional medium-sized cruiser

This classically designed medium-sized cruise ship accommodates 40 passengers in 21 stylish exterior cabins. Facilities include an elegant dining room, saloon, library and reading room, fitness room, jacuzzi, outside bar and solarium. The sun deck features an observation area. A stargazing programme and glass-bottom boat are also available.

## Cruise duration: 4, 6, 8, 10 & 14 nights



**Silver Origin** New elegant expedition cruiser

Launching in 2020, *Silver Origin* is a luxury expedition cruiser for up to 100 passengers. Well-appointed ocean-view suites with private balconies include butler service. Elegant public areas include two restaurants, observation and sun decks, a state-of-the-art 'Basecamp' room with an interactive display wall, and indoor and outdoor lounges with a cosy firepit.

Cruise duration:

7 & 14 nights



**Sea Star Journey** Small first-class yacht

This smart motor yacht is one of the best small cruisers in the Galapagos and features eco-friendly motors, seven elegant cabins and one suite with panoramic windows, offering enthralling views across the Galapagos. There is a spacious sun deck with a bar and two jacuzzis, and contemporary dining and lounge areas. Kayaks and snorkelling gear are included.

#### **Cruise duration:**

4, 5, 9, 10 & 14 nights



Santa Cruz II
State-of-the-art expedition vessel

The Santa Cruz II is an expedition cruise ship accommodating up to 90 passengers in 50 chic, contemporary cabins. Spacious indoor social areas include an elegant restaurant and two lounges, while the outside spaces feature a sun deck, alfresco dining and two jacuzzis. A glassbottom boat for viewing marine life is available, in addition to complimentary snorkelling gear.

#### Cruise duration:

4, 5 & 9 nights



Origin & Theory
Boutique luxury yachts

The *Origin* and its identical sister ship *Theory*, members of the esteemed Relais & Châteaux collection, are sophisticated motor-yachts with capacity for 20 passengers each. Offering a high level of service with two naturalist guides and a concierge, the yachts feature spacious public areas including a sun deck with jacuzzi, a gym and indoor and outdoor dining areas.

#### **Cruise duration:**

7 & 14 nights



Ocean Spray, Petrel & Camila Luxury catamarans & trimaran

The sleek *Ocean Spray* and *Petrel* catamarans were recently joined by the only trimaran in the Galapagos – the luxurious *Camila*, designed to provide increased stability and faster navigation. Accommodating up to 16 guests in spacious contemporary cabins with private balconies, all three feature ample indoor and outdoor areas, alfresco dining, snorkelling equipment and kayaks.

## Cruise duration: 3, 4, 5 & 7 nights



Cormorant, Natural Paradise & Infinity Small luxury catamaran & yachts

Operated by the same company, *Natural Paradise* and *Cormorant* accommodate up to 16 passengers, and *Infinity* up to 20. Stylish cabins and suites, most with private balconies, feature large windows and modern furnishings. Spacious social areas include a dining area and lounge, bar and large sun decks with jacuzzis. Snorkelling equipment and kayaks are complimentary.

#### **Cruise duration:**

3, 4 & 7 nights



Endemic Luxurious catamaran

This new custom-built luxury catamaran accommodates up to 16 passengers in elegant cabins, all with a private balcony. The stylish contemporary decor features light wooden furnishings. Spacious social areas include indoor and outdoor dining areas, a barbecue station, a bar and lounge and a sun deck with jacuzzi. Kayaks and snorkelling equipment are complimentary.

Cruise duration:

3, 4, 5 & 7 nights



Odyssey & Solaris Superior small boats

These small yachts, accommodating up to 16 passengers, have a contemporary design with excellent comfort and service. The *Odyssey* has 9 cabins, whereas the new *Solaris* offers 6 suites and 5 single cabins at a small supplement. Facilities include a spacious lounge and a sun deck with shaded awning. Complimentary snorkelling equipment is provided.

#### **Cruise duration:**

3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 11 & 14 nights



**Elite**New luxurious spacious catamaran

Launched in 2019, *Elite* is a luxury purposebuilt catamaran for up to 16 passengers. Contemporary and stylish suites all feature floor-to-ceiling windows leading onto a private balcony. Expansive social areas include indoor and outdoor dining areas, a bar-lounge and a partially covered sun deck with jacuzzi. Use of kayaks, paddle boards and snorkelling equipment is included.

#### Cruise duration:

3, 4 & 7 nights



Seaman Journey Excellent value small catamaran

The Seaman Journey is a first-class expeditionary catamaran. Up to 16 passengers are accommodated in eight cabins, each with a private bathroom. Onboard facilities include a bar-lounge, spacious sun decks with sun loungers, and inside and outside dining areas. Complimentary snorkelling equipment and kayaks are provided.

#### **Cruise duration:**

3, 4, 7 & 14 nights

# Ecuador Hotels & Haciendas

This is a selection of our recommended accommodation. Please see our website for more options.



#### Casa Gangotena, Quito

Casa Gangotena is a historic mansion, converted into a luxurious boutique hotel. A Renaissance-style building with original Italian architecture, its sophisticated interior features frescoed ceilings and elegant guestrooms. Relax on the rooftop terrace with views of Quito's old town, enjoy a traditional afternoon tea in the glass-roofed patio or dine on gourmet Ecuadorian cuisine while overlooking San Francisco Plaza.

#### Features:

31 rooms & suites, restaurant, bar, patio, Wi-Fi.



#### Hacienda Zuleta, Otavalo region

This rural traditional working hacienda dates back to the late 16th century and has been in the same family for more than 100 years. There are beautifully decorated bedrooms with fireplaces, cosy living and reading rooms, and delightful gardens surrounding the hacienda. The restaurant serves local cuisine prepared with organic farm produce and there is an Andean condor conservation project. Horse riding and birdwatching tours can be arranged.

#### **Features**

21 rooms, dining room, condor project, Wi-Fi.



#### Illa Experience Hotel, Quito

Located in the bohemian neighbourhood of San Marcos, the luxury Illa Experience Hotel is housed in a beautifully restored colonial mansion dating back to the 18th century. Each floor of this boutique property reflects a different period in Ecuador's history with rooms elegantly decorated in Colonial, Republican and contemporary styles. The rooftop bar is a perfect spot to enjoy panoramic views of the city's nightscape.

#### Features:

10 rooms, restaurant, bar, spa, gym, Wi-Fi.



#### Hacienda La Danesa, near Guayaguil

Originally founded in the 1870s, this familyowned hacienda is a traditional working dairy farm with teak and cacao plantations, situated in the tropical coastal region of Ecuador. Rooms are split between the historic farmhouse, original converted stables and garden cottages. Activities include hikes, biking, river tubing, cookery classes and chocolate making. Organic meals are prepared with fresh produce from the gardens and dairy.

#### Features:

6 rooms, terrace dining area, Wi-Fi.



#### La Casona de la Ronda, Quito

This characterful hotel is located on the winding La Ronda, one of the oldest streets in Quito and a traditional gathering place for artists, writers and poets. Housed in a historic building, the property has a beautiful plant-filled central courtyard. Rooms feature parquet floors, wooden furnishings and shuttered windows, while hotel facilities include a restaurant, rooftop lounge with city views and a reading room with a fireplace.

#### Features:

22 rooms, restaurant, bar, coffee shop, Wi-Fi.



#### Hacienda La Cienega, Cotopaxi region

Founded in the 17th century, La Cienega is one of the oldest and most historic haciendas in Ecuador. Located close to the Cotopaxi National Park, this carefully restored property offers spectacular views of the volcano on a clear day. Century-old eucalyptus trees line the stately entrance and the hacienda has extensive gardens and a chapel with an intricately carved door. A rose plantation is situated nearby.

#### Features:

32 rooms, restaurant, chapel, Wi-Fi.

# Lodges & Amazon Cruisers

This is a selection of our recommended accommodation. Please see our website for more options.



#### Mashpi Lodge, Mashpi

Mashpi Lodge is located in a private reserve, which is home to an exceptionally high variety of flora and fauna. The contemporary design of this luxurious eco-lodge blends perfectly with its surroundings. Floor-to-ceiling windows in the rooms and public areas provide spectacular views and an immersive experience. A highlight is exploring the forest canopy on the exhilarating sky bike.

#### Features

22 rooms & suites, restaurant, spa, sky bike, butterfly farm, Wi-Fi.



#### Hotel del Parque, Guayaquil

Located in Guayaquil's Parque Historico, this 19th-century property has been restored to its original grandeur and sits within beautiful tropical gardens. The cool interiors feature two courtyards with fountains and a spa set in the wooden-beamed bell tower. The restaurant specialises in Ecuadorian cuisine and activities on offer include visits to the hotel's botanical gardens, chocolate tasting and coffee roasting.

#### **Features:**

44 rooms, restaurant, bar & lounge, spa, gym, Wi-Fi.



#### La Selva Amazon Ecolodge

La Selva is located on the shore of a tranquil lake in Ecuador's Amazon. Rustic thatched cabanas are built from natural materials and have private balconies. The open-air bar and lounge areas offer panoramic views of the lake. Guests can spot wildlife from the lodge's observation tower, along rainforest trails, on canoe tours or at the butterfly farm. There is also a parrot clay lick nearby.

#### Features:

19 cabanas, dining room, bar/lounge, spa, Wi-Fi.



#### Mansion Alcazar, Cuenca

Situated in the heart of colonial Cuenca, this boutique property is a restored historic mansion replete with 19th-century antiques, crystal chandeliers and artworks. The charming guestrooms are built over two floors around a beautifully tiled, covered courtyard with a fountain, and flower-filled gardens lie to the rear of the property. There is an excellent restaurant serving fresh local cuisine and a luxury spa.

#### Features:

14 rooms, restaurant, bar, spa, interior courtyard, Wi-Fi.



#### Manatee & Anakonda Amazon cruisers

These stylish river cruisers feature spacious, air-conditioned cabins with large panoramic windows. The open-air decks with alfresco bar and jacuzzi provide superb views as you navigate along the Amazon tributary. Jungle walks, kayaking adventures along black water lakes and motor-canoe excursions are led by naturalist and native guides. Meals are made with local produce and can be served alfresco.

#### Features:

14 & 18 cabins, dining room, bar, lounge, spa, observation deck with outdoor jacuzzi.



#### Finch Bay Eco Hotel, Galapagos

The Finch Bay Eco Hotel is located just steps away from the beach, across the bay from Puerto Ayora town. Named after the renowned and abundant Darwin's finches, the hotel enjoys a quiet location nestled between mangroves. Its light and airy rooms feature garden or ocean views. This is a delightful base from which to explore Santa Cruz or neighbouring islands aboard the hotel's own Sea Lion yacht.

#### Features:

27 rooms & suites, restaurant, bar, outdoor pool & jacuzzi, spa, Wi-Fi.





# Chile

## Group tours • Tailor-made travel

Set between the majestic Andes and the rugged Pacific coast, Chile stretches from the desolate Atacama desert in the north to the granite peaks, glacier fields and untamed wilderness of Patagonia in the south. In between these striking extremes, the country offers snow-capped volcanoes, crystal-clear lakes, winding fjords, ancient forests and verdant valleys dotted with vineyards. As well as this pristine and spectacular scenery, visitors can encounter indigenous communities, bustling city culture in Santiago and Valparaíso, friendly hosts and delicious fresh seafood.

The remote and volcanic Easter Island in the middle of the Pacific Ocean bears witness to a unique and mysterious Rapa Nui legacy, with an extraordinary display of hundreds of moai (gigantic stone statues) dotted across the island. Chile has a number of luxury hotels and lodges with specialist guides to help provide insight as you explore the diverse regions of the country.

#### **Discover Chile**

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#### Places to stay - our suggestions

62 Chile hotel collection

#### Climate

Due to its length, Chile has an extraordinary variety of climates. Santiago and the central region enjoy a southern hemisphere summer from October to March. In the Atacama, the high altitude prevents scorching temperatures - days are usually pleasant but nights get cold. In Patagonia the weather is decidedly mixed: the temperature rarely gets above 15°C and sunshine can turn to rain in a matter of minutes. The best time to visit is summer, when the days are long and the weather is less severe.

#### Santiago

	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	26	25	23	19	16	13	13	14	16	20	23	25
В	14	14	12	9	6	4	3	4	5	8	11	13
C	1	2	4	15	35	86	92	72	32	21	11	2

#### **Easter Island**

	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D	
Α	25	25	25	24	22	20	19	19	19	20	21	24	
В	21	21	20	19	18	16	16	16	17	17	19	20	
С	79	85	95	120	147	107	104	92	83	71	79	91	

Key: A: Maximum average temperature (C) B: Minimum average temperature (C) C: Average rainfall (mm)

Inspired to venture further afield? Browse our website to discover additional destinations, places to stay and itineraries; or speak to our Latin America experts.



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# Discover Chile

## Santiago & the Coast

#### Santiago's history & culture • Colourful Valparaíso

The cosmopolitan capital of Chile is a buzzing metropolis set against the spectacular backdrop of the snow-capped Andes. Santiago's historical attractions, including the elaborately decorated cathedral and the outstanding Museum of Pre-Columbian Art, are complemented by hillside lanes, leafy parks, bustling street cafes and increasingly sophisticated restaurants that all add to the city's vibrancy and charm. The Sky Costanera observation deck, within South America's tallest building, offers 360-degree panoramic views of the city and surrounding mountains.

The former principal port of Valparaíso is within easy reach along the coast. Colourful houses, boutique shops and restaurants are sprawled across hillsides, reflecting the relaxed and informal atmosphere of the city. Those who wish to soak up the vibrant bohemian atmosphere of the city can stay in centuries-old mansions converted into character hotels and visit one of the eccentric homes of Nobel prize-winning poet Pablo Neruda.



Vineyard, Chile

## Chile's Wine Country

World-renowned wines  $\mathcal E$  the Colchagua Museum ullet Exclusive stays on winery estates

Set between the snow-capped Andes and the coast, the fertile valleys around Santiago are home to celebrated wineries, country traditions and warm hospitality. Exclusive winery estates, some among the oldest in Chile, offer relaxing stays in their colonial haciendas or boutique lodges as well as the opportunity to sample some of the region's finest wines. Stays of 2 nights are recommended to best appreciate the beautiful and peaceful surroundings. However, a full-day visit from Santiago can also be arranged.

In the renowned Colchagua valley, tours of the vineyards are often combined with a visit to Santa Cruz and its splendid Colchagua Museum, which contains a magnificent collection of pre-Columbian artefacts.





Moon Valley, Atacama desert

## The Atacama Desert

#### Altiplanic lagoons, salt lakes & geysers • Adobe villages

The Atacama desert, one of the driest places on Earth, is truly one of the most astonishing, with extraordinary landscapes of sand dunes, purple-shaded volcanoes, crusted salt flats, spewing geysers, green oases and turquoise lakes, as well as numerous other sights of interest.

Surrounded by arid mountain ranges, the small village of San Pedro de Atacama is the base for exploring the area. At daybreak, watch El Tatio geysers spout steam and boiling water high into the air, feel the salt crack under your feet at the world's third-largest salt flat and see pink flamingoes mirrored in intensely blue lagoons. Ancient petroglyphs carved in stone, adobe villages, thermal springs, magnificent sunsets over desolate dunes and clear desert nights all add to the appeal of this remarkable destination.

## Torres del Paine National Park

Granite peaks & stunning glaciers • Patagonia wildlife • Variety of walks & hikes

Stretching across southern Chile and Argentina, Patagonia is a land of rugged and untamed wilderness. The remote Torres del Paine National Park, a 5-hour drive through the vast steppe from the southerly city of Punta Arenas, possesses the characteristic unspoilt landscape of this windswept region. The soaring granite towers and cuernos of the park are surrounded by shimmering lagoons and glaciers, dense forests and tumbling waterfalls.

This strikingly beautiful area is home to a wealth of wildlife including guanacos, flightless rheas, condors and flamingoes, and can be explored by boat, vehicle or on foot. Hiking opportunities range from easy nature walks around the milky Lake Grey or Lake Azul to the more arduous hike up to the base of the famous towers.



Osorno volcano, Puerto Varas



Guanaco, Torres del Paine National Park

## Puerto Varas & Surrounds

Snow-capped volcanoes, lakes & forests

Snow-capped volcanoes, rivers and deep blue lakes dominate the scenery of the Chilean Lake District. The southern region can be best explored from Puerto Varas, set on a lake with stunning views of the cones of the Osorno and Calbuco volcanoes. This charming German-influenced town is a starting point for one of the most spectacular Andean lake crossings into Argentina, as well as day trips to the nearby national parks of Alerce Andino and Vicente Perez Rosales. Not far off the coast is the distinctive and mysterious island of Chiloé (see page 57).

## Northern Lakes & Volcanoes

Mapuche culture • Volcanic caves & hot springs

The northern Lake District is covered in araucaria and lenga forests and is home to the indigenous Mapuche people. The small town of Pucón and the nearby lake are a good base for exploring the surrounding national parks, including the volcanic caves on the slopes of the active Villarrica volcano, ancient forests, crystal-clear waterfalls and numerous hot springs. It is also possible to arrange a visit to a native community or continue across the Andes to Argentina and the scenic Seven Lakes Route.

#### A suggested itinerary...

#### **Essence of Chile**

12 days & 9 nights from £3,995 Category • Superior or Luxury

Starting and ending in the cosmopolitan city of Santiago, this tour explores Chile's extraordinary landscapes from the driest desert on Earth to the wilds of Patagonia.

#### Days 1-3: Fly to Santiago

Fly direct to Santiago for 2 nights at Plaza San Francisco / Casa Bueras\* with time to explore the city. (B)

#### Days 4-6: Fly to Calama • Atacama

Fly to Calama and transfer to San Pedro de Atacama for 3 nights at the **Altiplanico** 

/ explora Atacama\*. Tour the stark desert including the Atacama salt lake. (B)

## Day 7: Fly to Punta Arenas • Puerto Natales

Fly to Punta Arenas via Santiago and transfer to Puerto Natales. Overnight at **Hotel Costaustralis**. Luxury itinerary travels directly to Torres del Paine\*. (B)

#### Days 8-9: Torres del Paine

Travel across the Patagonian plains to Torres del Paine. Discover the dramatic scenery of this stunning national park with emerald lakes and granite peaks. Stay 2 nights at Hotel Lago Grey / 3 nights at explora Patagonia\*. (B)

#### Days 10-12: Fly to Santiago

Drive to Punta Arenas and fly to Santiago for a final night before flying home. (B) (N)

**Superior Guideline Prices** (incl. flights) Low season from: £3,995 (Apr) High season from: £4,095 ( Jan – Mar)

\*Luxury Guideline Prices (incl. flights) Low season from: £5,895 (Apr) High season from: £6,395 (Jan – Mar)

Tour code: CQQ / CHL



### Chile's Far North

## Ancient rock paintings • Incredible high plateau landscapes

Arica, Chile's northernmost city, is a gateway to the archaeological and natural wonders to be discovered inland, high into the Andes. The region is dotted with picturesque adobe villages and remains of pre-Columbian cultures, including mysterious rock carvings and geoglyphs. On the border with Bolivia lies the desolate Lauca National Park, with snow-capped volcanoes overlooking the emerald-green Lake Chungara and Cotacotani lagoon. Flamingoes, rheas and vicuñas can be spotted roaming the altiplano.

Along the desert coast it is possible to relax at the **Hotel Apacheta**, an eco-friendly retreat with views of South America's biggest wave, or enjoy activities such as walks, birdwatching or surf lessons.



Observatory, Elqui valley



Alpacas, Lauca National Park



Moai statues, Easter Island

## La Serena & Elqui Valley

#### Stargazing • Pisco distilleries • Quaint villages

Northern Chile is renowned for its incredibly clear skies and unpolluted atmosphere, attracting astronomers from all over the world. Verdant valleys lie between the coastal town of La Serena and the Andes, contrasting with the arid brown of the mountains. Astronomical observatories like Mamalluca and La Silla are open for visitors to gaze at the wonders of the skies. The Elqui valley is also home to picturesque villages and pisco distilleries, where the local drink is produced.

## Easter Island

#### Giant stone statues • Polynesian culture

Officially part of Chile, the mysterious and remote Easter Island lies in the middle of the South Pacific, a 5-hour flight from the mainland. This small volcanic rock is an extraordinary open-air museum of hundreds of *moai* (gigantic stone statues). Guided tours to ceremonial platforms and the quarry can be arranged, while the small village of Hanga Roa is easily explored on your own. We recommend stays of 3 or 4 nights due to the remote location and wealth of sites to visit.

#### A suggested itinerary...

#### **Carretera Austral Adventure**

7 days & 6 nights from £1,195 Category • Standard

The breathtaking southern Austral gravel road winds through truly wild and pristine Patagonian landscapes. This self-drive adventure starts and ends in Balmaceda and can be combined with other destinations.

Day 1: Fly to Balmaceda • Rio Tranquilo Fly to Balmaceda and pick up your hire car. Continue through Patagonian steppe to forests and lakes. (B)

#### Days 2-3: Caleta Tortel

Follow the mighty Rio Baker to picturesque Caleta Tortel, built on stilts between the two Patagonian ice fields. Stroll along wooden walkways or explore the surrounding channels and islands. (B)

## Days 4-5: Chacabuco valley • Lake General Carrera

Drive to giant Lake General Carrera, visiting the Chacabuco valley en route. Relax on its shores or discover ancient lenga forests, petrified fossils and glaciers. (B)

#### Days 6-7: Coyhaique • Balmaceda

Take an optional boat ride to the spectacular Marble Cathedral to see intricate caverns filled with turquoise waters, before continuing to Coyhaique for a final night.

Drive back to the airport for your return flight. (B)

**Guideline Prices** (incl. domestic flights) Low season from: £1,195 (Apr) High season from: £1,245 (Jan – Mar)

Tour code: CASD



## Experiences in Chile



#### Valparaíso's funiculars

Valparaíso's funicular elevators, constructed in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, connect the lower and historic upper part of the city and serve as a reminder of its prosperous past. Offering a welcome respite from steep hillside steps, these listed national monuments reward visitors with fantastic views of colourful houses and the bay. Concepción, the oldest, climbs almost 70 metres at an angle of 45 degrees, while Artillería is perhaps the most photographed.



#### Boat ride on Lake Grey, Patagonia

Take a boat ride on Lake Grey and navigate past floating icebergs to the face of the monumental Grey glacier, the largest in the Torres del Paine National Park. Reaching over 30 metres in height and extending as far as the eye can see, admire its sheer size by cruising in front of the cracked and fissured blue wall. Witness icy pinnacles calving off and floating away across the milky waters of the lake.



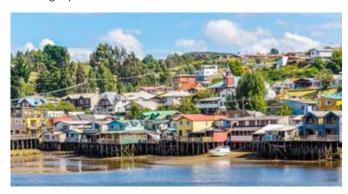
#### Stargazing, northern Chile

Famed for its reliable weather and clear, unpolluted night skies, the dry Atacama desert is a leading destination for astronomers, with many renowned international observatories and powerful telescopes located in the area of San Pedro de Atacama and La Serena. Stargaze with expert guides for a glimpse of our planetary neighbours, the brightest stars in the Milky Way, and the glow of distant galaxies.



#### Sunset over Moon Valley, Atacama

Take a late afternoon exploration of the Moon Valley's surreal natural rock and sand formations, created by water and wind erosion. Enjoy breathtaking views from atop a giant sand dune, then watch the sun sink over the rugged desert from a rocky viewpoint. Witnessing the changing red, purple and blue hues of this spectacular lunar landscape of arid mountains and volcanoes at sunset is a mesmerising and humbling experience.



#### Chiloé Island

The misty, verdant island of Chiloé is a short ferry ride from Puerto Montt on the mainland. This land of myths and legends has a distinctive folklore and is known for its colourful stilt-houses and 16th-century wooden churches, declared world heritage sites by Unesco. There is an abundance of fresh seafood, nature treks and many bird species, including the Ancud colonies of Humboldt and Magellanic penguins.



#### Chile self-drive trips

Self-drives in Chile offer flexibility and freedom to explore at your own pace. Discover highland lagoons and adobe villages along roads with little traffic in the north, take trips through verdant central winelands or follow scenic lake shores and towering mountains in the south. The largely unpaved Carretera Austral in Patagonia offers one of the most challenging and rewarding self-drive journeys on the continent.

# Splendours of Chile

**Duration** • 15 days & 12 nights **Category** • Superior

**Group tour •** From £3,695 (incl. flights) **Private tour •** From £4,395 (incl. flights)

#### This group tour features...

- 4- & 5-star accommodation
- International & internal flights
- Flexible extensions & flight upgrades available
- Average group size 16 people (max 26)
- Transfers in air-conditioned vehicles
- Experienced local tour manager
- 12 breakfasts, 3 lunches
- Guided sightseeing & entrance fees
- Porterage at airports
- Christmas departure

#### Weather

San Pedro de Atacama

	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	21	20	20	19	17	16	16	17	18	20	21	21
В	10	10	9	6	3	1	0	2	4	6	8	9
C	38	27	18	5	1	1	1	1	4	3	8	17

#### **Punta Arenas**

	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	15	14	12	9	6	4	4	5	7	10	12	14
В	6	6	5	3	1	0	-1	0	1	3	4	6
С	38	32	44	45	45	36	35	36	30	26	31	35

A: Maximum average temperature (C) B: Minimum average temperature (C) C: Average rainfall (mm)

#### Area map





Torres del Paine

Chile is an extraordinarily beautiful country, encompassing just about every type of landscape on Earth, from the arid desert of the north, through verdant lakes and pastures to the soaring peaks and glaciers of Patagonia. This expansive tour explores Chile's spectacular desert, mountain scenery and Patagonian wilderness, and allows time to discover some fascinating Chilean traditions.

#### C&K Signature experiences

- Watch the sun set over the Atacama desert
- Private boat trip on Lake Todos los Santos
- Superior room with views at Torres del Paine
- Visit a traditional Patagonian estancia

#### Day 1: Fly to Santiago via São Paulo

Fly from London (regional connections available) to Santiago, via São Paulo, with LATAM Airlines. (N)

#### Day 2: Santiago

Morning arrival. Transfer to the **Hotel Plaza San Francisco** for 2 nights. Afternoon at leisure. (N)

#### Day 3: Santiago

Morning tour of Santiago, including the

cathedral, the historic main square, the central market and Sky Costanera, the tallest building in South America, for views across the city and the Andes beyond. Afternoon drive into the countryside to the Undurraga vineyard for a tour and wine tasting. (B)

#### Day 4: Fly to Calama • San Pedro de Atacama

Early morning flight to Calama and transfer to San Pedro de Atacama for 3 nights at the **Hotel Altiplanico**. Afternoon excursion to the Valley of the Moon to see the mesmerising change of colours at sunset. (B)

#### Day 5: Atacama desert

Full-day journey into the spectacular desert landscape. Visit the Atacama salt flats, where pink flamingoes may be seen, and stop at the small village of Toconao, with its white volcanic stone buildings. Continue to a traditional farm for lunch and visit Tebinquinche lagoon. (B, L)

#### Day 6: Atacama desert

Day at leisure. Alternatively, take an optional excursion to El Tatio geysers, the hot springs or the 17th-century fortress of Pukara de Quitor. (B)

## Day 7: Fly to Puerto Montt via Santiago • Puerto Varas

Fly to Puerto Montt via Santiago and transfer to the town of Puerto Varas. Stay 2 nights at the Cabaña del Lago Hotel, set on the lake. (B)

#### Day 8: Chilean Lake District

Morning visit to Petrohué Falls and take a boat trip on Lake Todos los Santos. Afternoon drive up the lower reaches of the Osorno volcano for views of the surrounding mountains. (B)



#### Day 9: Fly to Punta Arenas • Puerto Natales

Fly to Punta Arenas and continue to Puerto Natales, set amid jagged peaks and the glassy waters of Last Hope Sound. Stay overnight at the **Hotel Costaustralis** (fjord-view room). (B)

#### Day 10: Torres del Paine

Drive across the wilds of Patagonia to Torres del Paine National Park. Full-day tour taking in the dramatic scenery of granite peaks, emerald lakes, waterfalls and ancient lenga forests. There is also the opportunity to meet the local rangers and learn about their work in the park. Stay at **Hotel Lago Grey** for 2 nights in a Superior room with views of the glacier. (B, L)

#### Day 11: Torres del Paine

Morning shared boat excursion on Lake Grey for an up-close view of its striking bright-blue glacier. Afternoon at leisure or optional tours. (B)

#### Day 12: Punta Arenas

Drive to Punta Arenas, visiting a traditional Patagonian estancia en route. Discover how people live in this remote region and enjoy a typical *quincho* barbecue for lunch. Afternoon short tour of Punta Arenas, situated on the Magellan Strait, and stay at the **Cabo de Hornos Hotel** for 1 night. (B, L)

#### Day 13: Fly to Santiago

Fly to Santiago and transfer to the **Hotel Plaza San Francisco** for an overnight stay. (B)

#### Days 14-15: Fly to London via São Paulo

Morning at leisure or optional tour of the Pre-Columbian Museum or Los Dominicos handicraft market. Afternoon transfer to the airport and fly to London, via São Paulo, with

LATAM Airlines, arriving the next day. (B) (N)

**Meal basis:** As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

#### Important information

**Optional flights:** It is possible to add an extra night at **Hotel Plaza San Francisco** at the

end of the tour and fly to and from Santiago direct with British Airways. Please enquire for supplements.

**Private & tailor-made travel:** This itinerary can be taken privately on a date that suits you, for which guideline prices are shown. Alternatively, it can be tailored to your exact requirements. Please call 020 3627 3097 or visit CoxandKings.co.uk/make-an-enquiry

#### **Guideline prices for 2020-21**

#### Group tou

Low season from £3,695 Guide price months: Oct

High season from £3,795 Guide price months: Jan – Feb, Nov

Single supplement from £995

#### Private travel

Low season from £4,395 Guide price months: Apr

High season from £4,495 Guide price months: Jan – Mar

Single supplement on request

The guideline high season prices may be significantly lower than the peak season prices (21 Dec – 6 Jan)

#### **LATAM Airlines flight upgrades**

Business Class from £1,895 return

#### Regional air connections

British Airways to/from Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow or Manchester. Prices on request.

The guideline tour prices are all per person in UK pounds, based on two people sharing a twin / double room. For current prices for all departure dates, including special offers when applicable, please call 020 3627 3097 or visit CoxandKings.co.uk. All prices are subject to availability.

#### **Departure dates for 2020-21**

Out (Sun)Rtn (Sun)19 Jan 2002 Feb 2009 Feb 2023 Feb 2001 Mar 2015 Mar 20

Out (Sun)Rtn (Sun)18 Oct 2001 Nov 2001 Nov 2015 Nov 2015 Nov 2029 Nov 20

Out (Sun)Rtn (Sun)16 Dec 2030 Dec 2017 Jan 2131 Jan 2107 Feb 2121 Feb 21

**Out (Sun)** Rtn (Sun) 28 Feb 21 14 Mar 21

Tour code: SOC

## Splendours of Chile Tour Extensions

#### **Tour + Easter Island**

6 days & 4 nights from £1,195 Tour code: SOCEAS

Easter Island is officially part of Chile and yet, lying 3,790km west of Santiago, it is the world's most remote inhabited island. A visit to Easter Island is an extraordinary experience, with 600 or so moai statues scattered around the island, dramatically set against the dark waters of the Pacific Ocean, a reminder of the civilisation that once thrived and faded on these shores. The windswept landscape of volcanic craters and lava formations adds to the otherworldly feel.

#### Day 14: Fly to Easter Island

Morning flight to Easter Island. Stay 3 nights at the Hangaroa Eco Village & Spa, overlooking the ocean in the small town of Hanga Roa (see page 63). (B)

#### Days 15-16: Easter Island

Explore various moai platforms, the quarry at Rano Raraku and Anakena beach, the site of the island's first settlement, Rano Kao volcano and the ceremonial village of Orongo. Your stay is inclusive of three half-day shared excursions provided by the hotel. (B)

#### Day 17: Fly to Santiago

Transfer to the airport for a flight to Santiago. Overnight at the Hotel Plaza San

#### Day 18: Fly to London via São Paulo

Fly to London, via São Paulo, with LATAM Airlines. (B)

Day 19: Arrive in London (N)

National park fee: Easter Island National Park fee is not included and is payable locally.



Moai statues Faster Island



Vineyard, Colchagua valley

#### **Tour + Winelands** 4 days & 2 nights from £495 Tour code: SOCCAS

At the end of your tour, stay and unwind at one of the winery hotels in the fertile wineproducing valleys not far from Santiago. Sample premium wines, explore wine estates and relax in spectacular surroundings set against a majestic Andean backdrop.

#### Day 13: Fly to Santiago • Colchagua valley

Fly to Santiago and drive (approx. 2 hours) to one of the oldest vineyards in the Colchagua valley. Stay 2 nights at the Casa Silva, a carefully restored former estate. Alternatively, upgrade to the colonial La Casona Matetic in the Casablanca Valley (see page 62). (B)

#### Day 14: Colchagua valley

Tour the winery, sample fine wines or relax in the tranquil surroundings. (B)

#### Days 15-16: Fly to London via São Paulo

Transfer to Santiago and fly to London, via São Paulo, with LATAM Airlines arriving the following day. (B) (N)

#### **Tour + Australis Cruise & Buenos Aires**

8 days & 6 nights from £1,995 Tour code: SOCMAB

Discover the extraordinary beauty and isolation of Patagonia aboard an Australis cruise. Travel across great seas and explore the sparkling glaciers, dramatic scenery and wildlife of the southernmost part of the world, including Cape Horn.

#### **Day 12: Punta Arenas**

Leave the group at Punta Arenas and board the *Stella* or *Ventus Australis* for a 4-night cruise. These two sister ships accommodate up to 210 passengers in ocean-view cabins. Both feature a restaurant, three lounges, a gym and large open terrace. Expert guides lead daily excursions and give lectures on local wildlife, history and geography. Some cruise departures may require a night or two in Punta Arenas beforehand. (B, D)

#### Days 13-15: Australis cruise

Cruise highlights include a visit to Ainsworth Bay, an elephant seal colony, Glacier Avenue, the Beagle Channel, Wulaia Bay and the meeting of the Atlantic and Pacific oceans at Cape Horn. (B, L, D)

#### Days 16-17: Fly to Buenos Aires

Arrive in Ushuaia. Fly to Buenos Aires and stay at the Intersur Recoleta for 2 nights. Half-day city tour. (B)

#### Days 18-19: Fly to London via São Paulo

Fly to London via São Paulo with LATAM. (B) (N)



Valparaíso

#### **Tour + Valparaíso** 4 days & 2 nights from £295 Tour code: SOCVAL

The old port of Valparaíso is one of Chile's most distinctive cities, with its funicular elevators, steep hills, labyrinthine alleys and brightly painted houses. A Unesco world heritage site, the town has a unique faded grandeur and relaxed bohemian atmosphere.

#### Day 13: Fly to Santiago • Valparaíso

Fly to Santiago with the group and drive north to the Pacific coast and Valparaíso. Stay 2 nights at the Fauna Hotel (Superior room). Upgrade to the boutique Zero Hotel from £85 (see page 62). (B)

#### Day 14: Valparaíso

At leisure to explore the colourful hills or visit the house of Pablo Neruda. (B)

#### Day 15: Fly to London via São Paulo

Transfer to Santiago airport and fly to London via São Paulo with LATAM Airlines. (B)

Day 16: Arrive in London. (N)



M/V Stella Australis



National Congress, Buenos Aires

#### **Tour + Buenos Aires**

5 days & 3 nights from £595 Tour code: SOCBUE

Explore Buenos Aires with its lively streets and plazas filled with the sights and sounds of tango. There is also the opportunity to visit an estancia in the countryside or take a day trip to neighbouring Uruguay.

#### Day 14: Fly to Buenos Aires

Fly to Buenos Aires. Transfer to the hotel Intersur Recoleta for 3 nights or optional upgrade to the Alvear Art Hotel (please enquire for prices). (B)

#### Days 15-16: Buenos Aires

Half-day tour of the city, visiting colourful La Boca, elegant Recoleta and the city's palaces and monuments. It is possible to take an optional visit to an estancia or a day trip to Colonia across the Rio de la Plata. (B)

#### Days 17-18: Fly to London via São Paulo

Transfer to airport. Fly overnight to London, via São Paulo, with LATAM Airlines. (B, N)



Sugar Loaf mountain, Rio de Janeiro

#### Tour + Rio de Janeiro

5 days & 3 nights from £745

Break up your journey home with a stop in the exhilarating Brazilian city of Rio de Janeiro, set between the mountains and the sea. Explore its celebrated sights, including Sugar Loaf mountain and Christ the Redeemer statue, and end your trip relaxing on one of the city's superb beaches.

#### Tour + Tierra del Fuego

6 days & 4 nights from £1,325

The untamed wilderness of the Chilean Tierra del Fuego, forming the southernmost tip of South America, is particularly impressive. Stay for 3 nights on the island of Navarino and take group excursions to discover the indigenous culture, nature and beautiful scenery of this remote part of Patagonia. The final night will be spent in Santiago.

# Chile Hotel Collection

This is a selection of our recommended accommodation. Please see our website for more options.



#### Casa Bueras Boutique Hotel, Santiago

Casa Bueras Boutique Hotel is an elegant boutique retreat in central Santiago, surrounded by antique shops, restaurants and some of the city's best galleries and museums. The hotel is located in a historic 1920s mansion and features refined rooms decorated with traditional wooden furniture. There is a small restaurant, an elegant lounge and a small walled garden with a terrace and an outdoor pool.

#### Features:

14 rooms & suites, restaurant, bar, outdoor pool, massage room, lift, Wi-Fi.



#### Tierra Patagonia Hotel & Spa, near Torres del Paine

Tierra Patagonia is located amid the wilds of Patagonia, on the shores of Lake Sarmiento. Blending into the landscape, this striking hotel features award-winning architecture. Rooms enjoy superb views of the Torres del Paine mountains and the large central area has a fireplace. A spa and delicious local dishes await guests after a day of guided explorations.

#### Features:

40 rooms, restaurant, bar, spa, indoor pool, jacuzzi, Wi-Fi.



#### Zero Hotel, Valparaíso

Located on a quiet street in the fashionable Cerro Alegre hill district of Valparaíso, Zero Hotel is a beautifully restored house facing the bay. The light and spacious rooms combine wooden floors with contemporary furniture. The winter garden and tiered terraces overlook the port and are an ideal place to relax at the end of the day, while a number of restaurants are within walking distance.

#### Features:

9 rooms, breakfast room, jacuzzi, terraced gardens, Wi-Fi.



#### Tierra Chiloé, Chiloé Island

Tierra Chiloé is located in the green hills of the Rilán peninsula, 18km from the town of Castro and close to the Pullao wetlands, home to many species of birds. The hotel combines local craftsmanship with a geometric design, employing many native materials. The rooms enjoy panoramic sea views, and there is a cosy living room with a fireplace, a dining room and a spa. Stays are inclusive of guided excursions.

#### Features:

12 rooms, restaurant, own boat to explore the fjords, small spa, Wi-Fi.



#### La Casona Matetic, Casablanca Valley

Matetic is an exclusive organic and biodynamic vineyard located in the Casablanca Valley, near the coast and just over an hour from Santiago. La Casona, the winery's colonial guesthouse, has elegant rooms set around a central courtyard. All rooms feature terraces with views of the gardens and vines. Guests can visit the vineyards, relax by the pool and sample fine wines from the Matetic cellar.

#### Features:

10 rooms, restaurant, outdoor pool, wine cellar, Wi-Fi.



#### Tierra Atacama, San Pedro de Atacama

Situated on the edge of San Pedro de Atacama, Tierra Atacama is a small contemporary hotel. Its rooms are decorated with local crafts and textiles and each has a private terrace with views of the surrounding landscape. After a full day of desert exploration enjoy spectacular sunsets over the Licancabur volcano from the outdoor relaxation areas or unwind at the Uma Spa or in the indoor and outdoor pools.

#### Features:

32 rooms, restaurant, spa, indoor & outdoor pools, Wi-Fi.

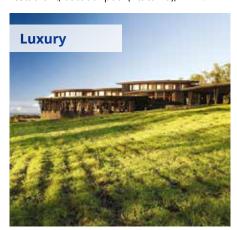


#### Awasi, Atacama & Patagonia

The small luxury Awasi lodges are designed to blend with the local surroundings. The lodge in Atacama has attractive thatched cottages with private patios and indoor and outdoor showers, while the villas in Patagonia each feature a fireplace, hot tub and panoramic views of the Torres del Paine mountains. Stays are fully inclusive, covering food, all refreshments and private excursions. Each room has a dedicated 4x4 and private guide.

#### Features:

12 rooms (Atacama) / 14 villas (Patagonia), bar, restaurant, outdoor pool (Atacama), Wi-Fi.



#### explora Rapa Nui, Easter Island

The explora hotel on Easter Island is located on a secluded hillside with panoramic views towards the Pacific Ocean. Built using wood and native volcanic rock, the hotel features a sleek, modernist design and an air of understated luxury with spacious, light-filled public areas. Guided walks to see the ethereal moai statues and other sights, scenic picnics and meals are all included in your stay.

#### Features:

30 rooms, restaurant, bar, infinity pool, spa, jacuzzi, Wi-Fi.



#### explora Atacama

The explora Atacama is located in a secluded spot just outside the village of San Pedro, with panoramic views of the surrounding mountains and desert landscape. Expert guides lead mountain biking, trekking, horse riding and sightseeing excursions, while four interconnected pools offer a superb place to relax. Enjoy gourmet cuisine at the restaurant and, in the evenings, guests can stargaze from the private observatory.

#### Features:

50 rooms, restaurant, bar, 4 pools, spa, jacuzzi, observatory, Wi-Fi.



## Hangaroa Eco Village & Spa, Easter Island

Hangaroa Eco Village & Spa is set by the ocean, a short walk from the centre of town. Modelled after the ceremonial village of Orongo, the property is designed with sustainable principles for natural and cultural preservation of the island. Rooms are stylish and minimalist with natural materials and Chilean handicrafts. All rooms feature a terrace with ocean views.

#### Features:

75 rooms, restaurant, bistro, spa, swimming pool, on-site museum.



#### explora Patagonia, Torres del Paine

The explora Patagonia overlooks the shores of Lake Pehoé, next to the Salto Chico waterfall, with breathtaking views of the Paine mountains. Excellent small group excursions are available, after which a dip can be taken in the swimming pool or hot tub, surrounded by the magnificent landscape. The blonde wood interiors feature handcrafted furniture and the superb dining is complemented by fine Chilean wines.

#### **Features:**

49 rooms, restaurant, indoor pool, outdoor jacuzzi, sauna, Wi-Fi.



#### Cabaña del Lago, Puerto Varas

The Cabaña del Lago Hotel is close to the centre of Puerto Varas and offers views of the town and the Osorno volcano. Its location is best appreciated from the restaurant, which overlooks the lake and surrounding scenery. The bar offers a cosy alpine ambience with outdoor wood burners and ponchos provided for cooler evenings. Rooms are spacious and feature colourful Chilean textiles and artwork.

#### Features:

157 rooms, restaurant, bar, swimming pool, sauna, Wi-Fi.





# Argentina & Uruguay

## Group tours • Tailor-made travel

Argentina is a diverse country of stunning natural beauty. Its vast territory encompasses high desert plateau, multicoloured canyons, tropical rainforests, grassy plains, snow-capped mountain ranges and immense glaciers. Southern right whales, sea lions and Magellanic penguins abound at Peninsula Valdés, and the pristine wetlands of the north-east are a birdwatcher's paradise. Visitors can explore Jesuit and pre-Inca ruins, colonial towns, discover traditional cattle ranches and stylish cities. Argentina's passionate people and superb food and wine add to the appeal of this alluring country.



Uruguay is just a short ferry ride across the River Plate from Argentina. Despite its relatively small size, this peaceful country can offer a diverse range of experiences. Beyond the beautiful sandy beaches and coastal nature reserves is a grassy interior dotted with cattle ranches and vineyards producing excellent local wines. The capital, Montevideo, is the cultural heartland of the country while Colonia is one of the most charming colonial towns.

	Discover Argentina		Small group & private tours
66	Buenos Aires, Iguazú Falls, Mendoza & the winelands	72	Patagonia: Untouched Wilderness • Group or private
67 68	Patagonia & the Lake District Salta & the north-west, Argentina's	74	Wonders of the New World • Group or private
	north-east, Cordoba & the Central Sierras	98	A Taste of South America • Group or private
70	Experiences in Argentina	100	Splendours of South America • Group or private
	Discover Uruguay	104	Grand Tour of South America •
69	Colonia & Montevideo, Uruguay's interior		Group or private
71	Experiences in Argentina & Uruguay	76	<b>Places to stay - our suggestions</b> Argentina hotels & estancias

#### Climate

Buenos Aires and the surrounding region is hot in summer from November to April and can get fairly cool in winter, although it is often mild even in mid-winter. Patagonia's weather is variable and unpredictable while further south in Ushuaia the climate is more severe. The best time to visit Patagonia is during the milder summer months of October to the end of March.

#### **Buenos Aires**

	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	29	28	26	22	19	15	15	17	19	22	25	28
В	20	19	17	14	10	8	7	8	10	13	15	18
C	107	102	121	96	76	62	62	67	69	111	101	92

#### **El Calafate**

	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	16	15	13	10	5	3	2	4	8	11	13	15
3	5	5	3	1	-2	-4	-5	-3	-2	0	3	4
c	42	40	51	50	48	47	46	44	39	36	36	42

Key: A: Maximum average temperature (C) B: Minimum average temperature (C) C: Average rainfall (mm)

Inspired to venture further afield? Browse our website to discover additional destinations, places to stay and itineraries; or speak to our Latin America experts.



020 3627 3097



CoxandKings.co.uk

# Discover **Argentina**



La Boca, Buenos Aires

## **Buenos Aires**

## Grand avenues $\mathcal E$ opulent architecture • Bustling cultural life $\mathcal E$ history

The sophisticated and energetic capital combines European heritage with Latin charms and is one of the world's most captivating cities. Marvel at the grand Colon Theatre and the government's pink palace, the Casa Rosada. Visit the exclusive Recoleta neighbourhood to see its opulent belle époque architecture and cemetery, where Eva Peron is buried, and stroll among the colourful houses of La Boca. Add a visit to the unrivalled collection of the Latin American Art Museum or the intriguing underground tunnels of El Zanjón. Stays of 3 nights are recommended to allow time to wander around the wide boulevards and catch the city at its best.

## Mendoza & the Winelands

#### Fine food & wine tasting • Wine estate retreats

Described as the land of sun and good wine, Mendoza is spectacularly set in the foothills of the Andes and is Argentina's main wine-producing region. Visit this stylish city, famous for its fine food, tree-lined avenues and delightful plazas, and sample some of the country's premium wines.

Take a tour of renowned *bodegas* (local wineries), where rows of vines stretch out to distant snow-capped mountains, or alternatively relax in the beautiful surroundings of one of the numerous wine estates in the region (see page 77). The harvest festival, Vendimia, usually takes place in March.



## Iguazú Falls

## Thunderous Devil's Throat • Speedboat to the foot of the falls

The Iguazú Falls, one of the world's most spectacular natural wonders, are located on the border of Argentina and Brazil. The plunging waters of the Iguazú river burst into 275 separate cataracts through the lush vegetation. The majority of the falls lie on the Argentinian side, where several walkways allow visitors to approach the thundering waters from above and below. An eco-train provides easy access to the Devil's Throat, the highest and most spectacular of the falls. The panoramic views from the Brazilian side reveal the full scale of this extraordinary sight and exhilarating boat trips on the river below get even closer to the base of the cataracts.



Iguazú Falls



Perito Moreno glacier



Lake District, Bariloche

## Patagonia

#### Great wilderness • Awe-inspiring glaciers

Patagonia encompasses endless wild and windswept expanses, towering mountains and giant glaciers that sweep down to turquoise lakes. The Andes form the spine of this vast region that stretches to the archipelago of Tierra del Fuego at the foot of the continent. Guanacos, condors and rheas can be spotted in this barren landscape, while blooming lenga forests and notro bushes add a splash of crimson in autumn. Near El Calafate, the immense Perito Moreno glacier provides an awe-inspiring spectacle of ever-changing shades and thunderous breaking ice. The striking granite massif of Mount Fitz Roy rises near El Chaltén and provides excellent hiking opportunities in astonishing surroundings.

### C&K Recommends...

#### Peninsula Valdés

At Peninsula Valdés on the Atlantic coast, rich marine life abounds. Here rheas, vizcachas and armadillos roam the wild steppes, while sea lions, elephant seals, orcas and seabirds inhabit the coastline and shallow waters. Magellanic penguins can be seen in large colonies at San Lorenzo and Punta Tombo, and southern right whales are spotted between August and November.

#### Visit to the 'end of the world'

At the 'end of the world' and separated from the mainland by the Straits of Magellan lies Tierra del Fuego ('Land of Fire'). The remote southerly city of Ushuaia, a gateway to Antarctica, is set against a jagged mountainous backdrop. Cruise along the Beagle Channel, learn about the island's indigenous inhabitants or hike in serene surroundings past lakes and lenga forests.

## The Lake District

#### Forest-clad mountains & lakes • Boat trips & walks

The Lake District is a beautiful region of pristine forests, deep-blue lakes, rivers and snow-capped mountains that offers a wide range of outdoor activities such as fishing, kayaking, gentle walks or hikes. The Alpine-style lakeside town of Bariloche is the main centre for exploring the parks and a starting point for stunning boat trips deep through the lakes all the way to Chile. To the north, there is a scenic route through seven different lakes and in the south the famous Ruta 40 stretches all the way to Patagonia, running parallel to the Andes. Relaxing stays to enjoy the fresh air and stunning scenery can be arranged at a number of idyllic retreats or at an authentic estancia near San Martin de los Andes.



Punta Tombo penguin colony

#### A suggested itinerary...

#### **Classic Argentina**

14 days & 11 nights from £3,395 Category • Superior or Boutique

This journey combines some of the most fascinating parts of the country, travelling from the sub-tropical north to the wild landscapes of the south.

#### Days 1-4: Fly to Buenos Aires

Fly to Buenos Aires and stay for 3 nights at the Intersur Recoleta or the characterful Legado Mitico\*. Take in the city's many sights. (B)

#### Days 5-6: Fly to Iguazú

Morning flight to Iguazú. Discover the falls

and the surrounding jungle. Stay 2 nights at Mercure Iguazú or Puerto Bemberg / Awasi Iguazú $^{*}$ . (B)

#### Days 7-8: Fly to El Calafate via Buenos Aires

Fly to El Calafate and transfer to **Kosten Aike** / **Esplendor Hotel**\* for 2 nights and take a cruise in front of the awe-inspiring Perito Moreno glacier. (B)

#### Days 9-11: Fly to Mendoza / Bariloche

Fly to Mendoza and its beautiful wine estates. Alternatively, fly to Bariloche and spend 3 nights relaxing amid the lakes and mountains. (B)

#### Days 12-14: Fly home

Return to Buenos Aires for a night before flying home. (B) (N)

**Superior Guideline Prices** (incl. flights) Low season from: £3,395 (Apr, Sep) High season from: £3,495 (Jan – Mar)

\*Boutique Guideline Prices (incl. flights) Low season from: £3,895 (Apr) High season from: £3,995 (Jan & Mar)

Tour code: ACL / ACX





Cordoba cathedral



Esteros del Iberá

## Cordoba & the Central Sierras

#### Rich colonial heritage • Traditional estancias

Cordoba, Argentina's second largest city, prospered during colonial times and has a well-preserved centre with many beautiful buildings dating back to the late 16th century and the time of the Jesuit order. Its university, one of the earliest intellectual centres in the Americas, gives the city a youthful and buzzing atmosphere today. The surrounding grasslands and rolling hills are dotted with small towns, Jesuit ruins and traditional *estancias* (working ranches), home to Argentinian *gauchos* (local cowboys). Visitors can relax in peaceful surroundings and are often welcomed by descendants of the original pioneers.

## Salta & the North-West

#### Picturesque colonial towns • Striking scenery

Once part of the Inca empire, Argentina's north-west is a region of picturesque colonial towns, striking natural scenery and deep-rooted traditions. Stretching east from the Chilean and Bolivian borders, the high altiplano, or *puna*, gives way to arid foothills dotted with giant cacti, rugged colourful canyons and traditional adobe villages where locals still pay tribute to the earth goddess Pachamama. Purmamarca to the north has cream-coloured adobe houses, while the cobbled streets of Cachi and Molinos have changed little since colonial times.

The city of Salta has beautifully preserved colonial architecture and splendid museums. It is a starting point for the *Train to the Clouds*, a spectacular narrow-gauge journey through tunnels, bridges and viaducts into the barren high plateau, and scenic trips to shimmering white salt flats. Further south, a scenic drive past impressive cliffs and rock formations leads to Cafayate, home to high altitude vineyards and excellent wine estates.

## Argentina's North-East

#### Pristine wetlands • Jesuit ruins

Esteros del Iberá are the second largest wetlands in South America and home to abundant and varied wildlife. This prime wildlife viewing area (see page 70) can be accessed from the city of Posadas and explored by boat and on foot. The area can also be combined with onward travel to Iguazú Falls and a visit to the ruined 17th-century Jesuit missions, once home to thousands of indigenous Guaraní people during their heyday. The ruins of San Ignacio Miní, the best-preserved in South America, have impressive stone structures carved with native flora and fauna decorations.



San Francisco church, Salta

#### A suggested itinerary...

#### **Secrets of the North-West**

7 days & 6 nights from £745 Category • Standard

Take a self-drive or guided tour of the rugged landscapes of the north-west and discover colourful hills, dramatic gorges, colonial towns, adobe villages and pre-Colombian culture.

#### Days 1-2: Fly to Salta

Fly to Salta for 2 nights and explore the museums and lively folk music clubs of this beautiful city. (B)

#### Day 3: Purmamarca

Travel north to see the Salinas Grandes salt flats and the Hill of Seven Colours. Overnight at Purmamarca. (B)

#### Day 4: Tilcara • Humahuaca • Salta

Visit the pre-Hispanic treasures of Tilcara and admire the multi-coloured Humahuaca gorge before returning to Salta for 1 night. (B)

#### Days 5-6: Cachi • Molinos • Cafayate

Head south through rugged canyons, high summits and giant cacti deserts to the colonial villages of Cachi and Molinos. Stay 1 night, then continue to the scenic Cafayate and its excellent wine estates for a night or two. (B)

#### Day 7: Salta

Return to Salta for onward travel. (B)

**Guideline prices** (incl. domestic flights) **Self-drive:** Low / high season from £745

#### Guided:

Low season from: £1,695 (Jan) High season from: £1,745 (Feb, May)

Tour code: ANW / SEN



# Discover Uruguay



Colonia del Sacramento



## Colonia & Montevideo

#### Relaxed capital city • Colonial riverside gem

These two major attractions can be visited on their own or easily combined with a trip to neighbouring Argentina. The vibrant capital of Montevideo has a historic centre and a waterfront promenade along the River Plate. Visit the old wrought-iron port market, whose grill stalls offer delicious steaks, or browse the little shops selling antiques, books and crafts. In the evening, listen to traditional live music, such as tango, and sample fine local wines. The charming riverside town of Colonia has a Unesco-protected historic quarter with well-preserved architecture (see page 71).

## C&K Recommends...

#### Coastal retreats

East of Montevideo, the Atlantic coastline offers miles of sandy beaches, dunes, nature reserves and resorts. Glamorous Punta del Este has a glitzy nightlife, but we recommend the former fishing village of José Ignacio, a relaxed yet chic coastal retreat surrounded by lagoons. Accommodation ranges from small boutique properties to exclusive luxury resorts such as the striking beachfront Playa Vik.

## **Uruguay's Interior**

#### Rural landscapes • Working ranches

The rural interior of Uruguay consists of rolling plains and forested hills. These pastoral charms can be experienced with a stay at a historic working ranch, where Uruguayan gauchos ride horses and herd cattle. Sleepy little towns, such as Garzón and Pueblo Eden, offer boutique hotels and gourmet dining experiences, while the surrounding rocky hills are home to picturesque vineyards, olive groves and modern wineries.



Playa Vik, José Ignacio

#### A suggested itinerary...

#### **Buenos Aires & Uruguay**

12 days & 9 nights from £2,695 Category • Superior or Luxury

Combine a visit to Buenos Aires with an exploration of Uruguay, including the historic town of Colonia, the capital Montevideo and the former fishing village of José Ignacio, now a chic bohemian retreat.

Days 1-2: Fly to Buenos Aires, Argentina Fly direct to Buenos Aires and transfer to Intersur / Hotel Mio\* for 3 nights. (B)

Days 3-4: Buenos Aires

Half-day city tour and enjoy time at leisure. (B) Day 5: Colonia, Uruguay

Take a ferry ride across the River Plate to

Colonia in Uruguay. Afternoon city tour and stay at Posada Plaza Mayor / Charco\*. (B) Days 6-7: Montevideo

Transfer by road to Montevideo for a 2-night stay at Dan Boutique / Alma Historica\*. Take a city tour and an optional visit to a winery. (B)

Day 8: Punta del Este • José Ignacio Transfer to José Ignacio, via the house of

artist Carlos Páez Vilaró at Punta Ballena. Stay 3 nights at La Viuda de José Ignacio / Bahia Vik\* or Playa Vik\*. (B)

Days 9-10: José Ignacio

At leisure. (B)

Days 11-12: Fly home via Madrid Transfer to Montevideo and fly home. (B) (N)

Extensions: Add further explorations in Argentina or add a stay at a Uruguayan estancia or vineyard.

Superior Guideline Prices: (incl. flights) Low season from: £2,695 (Mar - Apr) High season from: £2,895 (Jan - Feb)

\*Luxury Guideline Prices: (incl. flights) Low season from: £3,395 (Mar - Apr) High season from: £3,895 (Jan - Feb)

Tour code: BUY / BUX



## Experiences in Argentina & Uruguay



#### Tango experience

Synonymous with the capital Buenos Aires, this nostalgic, passionate dance emerged from the depths of the suburbs and became world famous. Tango can be enjoyed in many forms, from classes in elegant ballrooms to professional shows at venues such as La Ventana and the more intimate Tango Rojo. Alternatively, visit a traditional local *milonga*, the Porteños' favourite venue for dancing.



#### Iguazú boat ride

This exhilarating experience starts with an open 4x4 truck ride through the jungle to embark on a shared motorboat and travel upstream through stretches of rapids to the pounding waterfalls. Take in spectacular up-close views of the Devil's Throat and San Martin falls and hear their thunderous roar before being driven right below the blinding wall of a nearby cascade for a drenching but extraordinarily invigorating contact with nature.



#### Patagonia glaciers

Near El Calafate, sail in front of the towering blue wall of Perito Moreno, hike its sculpted surface, or take in breathtaking views from panoramic walkways. Boat trips past drifting icebergs can also be arranged to the Upsala and Onelli glaciers or on to remote **Estancia Cristina** set deep inside the national park. Visit on a day trip or stay overnight to enjoy short hikes and sweeping views over the Southern Ice Field, go horse riding or fishing.



#### Wining & dining, Buenos Aires

Buenos Aires offers world-class dining, and many fine restaurants take the Argentinian tradition of a *parrilla* (grill) to gourmet heights. Sample premium wines from the country with a private sommelier at Cava del Querandí in historic San Telmo, followed with a superb, sizzling steak in a refined setting on the waterfront of the redeveloped Puerto Madero docklands, or alfresco in chic Palermo.



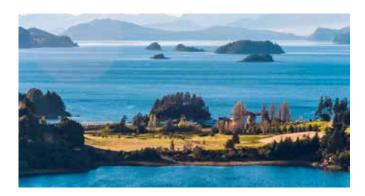
#### Wildlife viewing at Iberá Wetlands

The pristine lakes, streams and floating islands of this vast nature reserve – the largest protected area in Argentina – can be explored from the luxurious **Puerto Valle Hotel**, with its own private access to the wetlands, or from remote eco-ranches such as **Rincón del Socorro**. Stays are inclusive of boat trips and nature walks in search of capybaras, caimans, otters, marsh deer, howler monkeys, giant anteaters, anaconda and more than 350 bird species.



#### **Austral Cruises**

The fjords and austral channels of southern Patagonia form landscapes of extraordinary beauty. The first-class Cruceros Australis ships sail from Ushuaia across the Beagle Channel, past historic Cape Horn and around the southern tip of the continent to Punta Arenas in Chile (or vice versa). Voyage through spectacular scenery and otherwise inaccessible fjords and glaciers and spot some of the region's wildlife such as Magellanic penguin colonies.



#### Andean lakes crossing

This scenic full-day trip, one of the most spectacular in South America, starts on the shores of Lake Nahuel Huapi in Bariloche, traverses the Andes via a series of boat and road journeys and ends in Puerto Varas in Chile, or vice versa. Cross shimmering lakes, wind along mountain roads and catch a view of Osorno volcano's perfect cone. The total journey takes approximately 12 hours including sightseeing stops.



#### Hill of Seven Colours & surrounds

North of Salta, the barren hillsides of the Humahuaca gorge reveal a stunning kaleidoscope of red, orange, green and brown-coloured rocks, rivalled only by the multi-layered cliffs of the Hill of Seven Colours at Purmamarca. Trips along this ancient trade route can be combined with visits to pre-Columbian ruins, traditional adobe villages and fascinating little churches, or a drive out to the spellbinding salt flats at Salinas Grandes.



#### Self-drive in Argentina

Argentina's scenic routes offer rewarding self-drive experiences, many on the renowned and largely paved Route 40, along the flanks of the majestic Andes. In the north-west, drive through varied landscapes of highland cacti deserts, salt flats, multicoloured canyons and Andean villages. Views of beautiful lakes and forests can be enjoyed along the Seven Lakes Route, while roads in Patagonia have isolated stretches with towering mountains and dazzling glaciers.



#### Wine country escapes

The highly-regarded bodegas around Mendoza and Cafayate are home to small boutique hotels and luxurious estates that offer sublime winelands escapes. Discover premium wines at on-site tastings, sample delicious gourmet cuisine, unwind by the pool or indulge in signature wine therapies. Alternatively, soak up the full panorama of the vineyards and the Andes beyond while exploring on foot, by bicycle or on horseback.



#### Visit to an estancia

Ranging from working cattle ranches to elegant country estates, Argentina's traditional *estancias* are dotted throughout the country and provide first-hand insight into local culture and traditions. Day trips can be arranged to enjoy a delicious Argentinian barbecue or see legendary *gauchos* display their fabled skills, while longer stays offer opportunities to explore the plains on horseback, watch spectacular sunsets and relax in beautiful surroundings.



#### A trip to Colonia, Uruguay

Uruguay's oldest city and a Unesco world heritage site, Colonia del Sacramento is less than an hour from Buenos Aires by fast ferry. Settled by the Portuguese and twice conquered by the Spanish, this picturesque riverside town has remarkably well-preserved colonial houses and cobbled streets full of visual delights. Day trips or overnight stays in small character properties can be arranged to explore the historic centre.

# Patagonia: Untouched Wilderness

**Duration** • 16 days & 13 nights **Category** • Superior

#### This group tour features...

- 4 & 5-star accommodation
- Direct international flights with British Airways
- Internal flights
- Flexible extensions & flight upgrades available
- Average group size 14 people (max 26)
- Transfers in air-conditioned vehicles
- Experienced local tour manager
- 13 breakfasts, 1 lunch
- Guided sightseeing & entrance fees\*
- Porterage at airports
- Christmas & New Year departure

#### Weather

Ushuaia

	J	F	М	Α	M	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	12	12	11	8	5	3	3	4	7	9	10	12
В	4	4	2	1	-1	-3	-3	-2	-1	1	2	3
С	44	49	56	54	49	49	38	44	40	36	38	45

A: Maximum average temperature (C) B: Minimum average temperature (C) C: Average rainfall (mm)

#### Area map



**Group tour •** From £3,995 (incl. flights) **Private tour •** From £4,395 (incl. flights)



Sea lions, Beagle Channel

Patagonia is one of the world's great wilderness areas and its culture is intertwined with that of the European pioneers and gauchos. This fascinating journey through four national parks in Argentina and Chile reveals the distinct cultures and landscapes of this remote part of the world.

#### C&K Signature experiences

- Scenic Andean lake crossing
- Face-to-face with Perito Moreno glacier
- Room with views in Torres del Paine
- Cruise along the Beagle Channel

#### Day 1: Fly to Buenos Aires

Fly from London (regional connections available) direct to Buenos Aires with British Airways. (N)

#### Day 2: Buenos Aires

Morning arrival. Transfer to the **Alvear Art Hotel** for 2 nights. Afternoon at leisure to
explore the streets of Buenos Aires on foot. (N)

#### Day 3: Buenos Aires

Morning tour of Buenos Aires, discovering its blend of European cultures and grand architecture. (B)

#### Day 4: Fly to Bariloche

Fly to Bariloche on the shores of Lake Nahuel Huapi. Transfer to **Hotel NH Edelweiss** for 2 nights. (B)

#### Day 5: Bariloche

Half-day tour of Bariloche's scenic surroundings, including Moreno lake, Angostura river and Campanario hill. (B)

#### **Day 6: Puerto Varas**

Full-day shared journey by coach and boat across the Lake District to Chile. Travel across lakes and mountains, past waterfalls and forests, to the lakeside town of Puerto Varas, with views of the Osorno volcano on clear days. Transfer to the Cabaña del Lago Hotel for 1 night. (B)

#### Day 7: Fly to Punta Arenas • Puerto Natales

Fly to Punta Arenas and transfer to Puerto Natales. Stay overnight at the **Hotel Costaustralis**, overlooking the waters of Last Hope Sound. (B)

#### Day 8: Torres del Paine

Full-day tour of Torres del Paine National Park. This remote area encompasses mountains, glaciers and lakes, and is a habitat for guanacos, condors and native flightless rheas. Visit Salto Grande waterfall, Lake Nordenskjöld, Lake Pehoe and Lake Grey. Stay 2 nights at the Hotel Lago Grey (Superior room with glacier view). (B, L)

#### **Day 9: Torres del Paine**

Morning walk in the national park, close to Lake Sarmiento and the Amarga lagoon for another view of the Paine massif. Afternoon at leisure. (B)

#### Day 10: El Calafate

Drive across the border to El Calafate in Argentina. Stay 2 nights at **Hotel Kosten Aike**. (B)

#### Day 11: Perito Moreno

Full-day tour of the stunning Perito Moreno glacier. At 5km wide, it is a magnificent sight. See the glacier from the observation platforms and take a cruise on the lake in front of the ice wall. (B)

#### Day 12: Fly to Ushuaia

Fly to Ushuaia, the world's most southerly city. Stay for 2 nights at the **Hotel Los Acebos** or similar, with panoramic views over the bay. (B)

#### Day 13: Beagle Channel • Tierra del Fuego

Morning cruise on the Beagle Channel. Afternoon visit to Tierra del Fuego National Park. (B)

#### Day 14: Fly to Buenos Aires

Fly to Buenos Aires and transfer to the **Alvear Art Hotel** for 1 night. Optional evening dinner and tango show at La Ventana. (B)

#### Days 15-16: Fly to London

Transfer to the airport and fly to London with British Airways, arriving the next day. (B) (N)

**Meal basis:** As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.



Perito Moreno glacier

Tour code: PAT

#### **Extension**

#### Tour + Iguazú

4 days & 2 nights from £595 Tour code: PATIGU

Extend your holiday with a visit to the magnificent Iguazú Falls, situated on the border of Argentina and Brazil. Explore the countless cataracts on both the Argentinian and Brazilian sides.

#### Day 15: Fly to Iguazú

Transfer to the airport and fly to Iguazú. Half-day tour of the Argentinian falls before transferring to the luxurious **Belmond Hotel das Cataratas** for a stay of 2 nights inside the park. Upgrade to a falls-view room from £275 per person. (B)

#### Day 16: Iguaçu

Day at leisure to explore the spectacular falls from your hotel for a different perspective. (B)

#### Days 17-18: Fly to London via Rio

Transfer to the airport and fly to Rio to connect with a British Airways flight to London, arriving the following day. (B) (N)

#### **Important information**

\*Park fees: Iguazú / Iguaçu National Park fees are not included in the extension.

**Private & tailor-made travel:** This itinerary can be taken privately on a date that suits you, for which guideline prices are shown.

Alternatively, it can be tailored to your exact requirements. Please call 020 3627 3097 or visit CoxandKings.co.uk/make-an-enquiry

#### **Guideline prices for 2020-21**

#### **Group tour**

Low season from £3,995 Guide price months: Oct

High season from £4,095 Guide price months: Jan – Mar, Nov

Single supplement from £995

#### Private travel

Low season from £4,395 Guide price month: Apr

High season from £4,595 Guide price months: Jan – Mar

Single supplement on request

The guideline high season prices may be significantly lower than the peak season prices (21 Dec – 6 Jan)

#### **British Airways flight upgrades**

World Traveller Plus from £495 return Club World from £2,495 return

#### **Regional air connections**

Prices on request. To/from Aberdeen, Belfast, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Manchester or Newcastle.

The guideline tour prices are all per person in UK pounds, based on two people sharing a twin / double room. For current prices for all departure dates, including special offers when applicable, please call 020 3627 3097 or visit CoxandKings.co.uk. All prices are subject to availability.

#### Departure dates for 2020-21

Out (Sat)	Rtn (Sun)	Out (Sat)	Rtn (Sun)	Out (Sat)	Rtn (Sun)
18 Jan 20	02 Feb 20	24 Oct 20	08 Nov 20	23 Jan 21	07 Feb 21
08 Feb 20	23 Feb 20	07 Nov 20	22 Nov 20	13 Feb 21	28 Feb 21
29 Feb 20	15 Mar 20	20 Dec 20	04 Jan 21	06 Mar 21	21 Mar 21

## Wonders of the New World

**Duration** • 11 days & 8 nights **Category** • Luxury

#### This group tour features...

- 5-star accommodation
- Direct international flights with British Airways
- Internal flights
- Flexible extensions, room & flight upgrades available
- Average group size 14 people (max 26)
- Transfers in air-conditioned vehicles
- Experienced local tour guides in each destination
- 8 breakfasts
- Guided sightseeing & entrance fees\*
- Porterage at airports

#### Weather

**Buenos Aires** 

	J	F	М	Α	M	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	29	28	26	22	19	15	15	17	19	22	25	28
В	20	19	17	14	10	8	7	8	10	13	15	18
C	107	102	121	96	76	62	62	67	69	111	101	92

A: Maximum average temperature (C) B: Minimum average temperature (C) C: Average rainfall (mm)

#### Area map



**Group tour •** From £2,395 (incl. flights) **Private tour •** From £2,695 (incl. flights)



Sugar Loaf mountain, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

This journey offers an outstanding introduction to Argentina and Brazil with stays at some of the most luxurious hotels. Combine the elegance of Buenos Aires with exotic and flamboyant Rio de Janeiro and visit the aweinspiring waterfalls of Iguazú, thundering amid tropical jungle along the border.

#### C&K Signature experiences

- Stay inside Iguaçu National Park & see the falls at dawn or sunset
- Visit colourful Caminito & Recoleta cemetery
- Take in spectacular views & the carioca atmosphere from the most iconic hotel in Rio de Janeiro

#### Day 1: Fly to Buenos Aires

Evening flight from London (regional connections available) to Buenos Aires with British Airways. (N)

#### Day 2: Buenos Aires

Morning arrival. Transfer to the **Alvear Art Hotel** for 3 nights. (N)

#### **Day 3: Buenos Aires**

Half-day tour of Buenos Aires, including the Recoleta cemetery where Eva Peron is buried, and La Boca district, birthplace of the tango. (B)

#### **Day 4: Buenos Aires**

At leisure or optional full-day trip to an estancia in the Pampas countryside. (B)

#### Days 5-6: Fly to Iguazú / Iguaçu<sup>†</sup>

Fly to the Iguazú Falls and cross into Brazil to stay for 2 nights at the colonial-style **Belmond Hotel das Cataratas** with a privileged location inside the national park (upgrade to a deluxe falls-view room from £275). Tour the Argentinian side of these magnificent cataracts including the Devil's Throat with time at leisure to explore the Brazilian side at your own pace. Experience the falls at dawn or sunset when the park is closed to other visitors. (B)

#### Day 7: Fly to Rio de Janeiro

Fly to Rio and transfer to the opulent **Belmond Copacabana Palace** (Superior partial oceanview room) for 3 nights<sup>†</sup>. Upgrade to a deluxe ocean front room from £110. (B)

#### Day 8: Rio de Janeiro

Morning visit to Corcovado mountain and the statue of Christ the Redeemer. In the afternoon, visit Sugar Loaf mountain by cable car. (B)

#### Day 9: Rio de Janeiro

Day at leisure. Optional excursions include the Tijuca rainforest, a visit to the botanical gardens or a Brazilian food tour. (B)

#### Days 10-11: Fly to London

At leisure (use of a day room at the **Belmond Copacabana Palace** from £85). Evening transfer to the airport for the flight to London with British Airways. (B) (N)

**Meal basis:** As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

#### **Extensions**

#### Tour + Búzios beach

5 days & 3 nights from £595 Tour code: WNWABR

Stay 3 or 4 nights at **Vila d'Este / Casas Brancas** (see page 87) in the beach resort of Búzios (approx. 2.5 hours from Rio de Janeiro) and enjoy its numerous sandy beaches, clear waters, chic shops and restaurants.

#### Patagonia + tour

5 days & 3 nights from £845 Tour code: WNWPAT

Visit one of the most striking highlights of Patagonia for a magnificent glacier experience and discover the desolate beauty of this remote region. Fly to Buenos Aires for 1 night and then join the *Splendours of South America* group at El Calafate (see pages 100-101).



Iguazú Falls, Argentina

Tour code: WNW

#### Santiago & Mendoza + tour

6 days & 4 nights from £1,095 Tour code: WNWMDZ

Combine a visit to cosmopolitan Santiago with Argentina's wine capital of Mendoza, an attractive city of parks and avenues. Both cities sit at the foot of the Andes.

#### Days 1-3: Fly to Santiago

Fly overnight to Santiago with British Airways and stay for 2 nights at the Plaza San Francisco Hotel. Half-day tour of the city, including the historic centre. Optional visit to a local winery or bohemian Valparaíso. (B)

#### Days 4-5: Mendoza

Fly to Mendoza and transfer to the **Mendoza** Park Hyatt for a 2-night stay. Take a morning city tour and visit the surrounding wineries in the afternoon. (B)

#### **Day 6: Fly to Buenos Aires**

Fly to Buenos Aires and join the group. (B)

#### **Important information**

Locally escorted tour: This tour is led in each destination en route by a local tour guide.

\* Park fees: Entry fees at the Iguazú / Iguaçu National Parks are not included.

<sup>†</sup> Rio de Janeiro: The 20 February 2020 and 4 February 2021 departures include 3 days & 2 nights in Rio due to Champion's Parade/Carnival. If you would like to extend your stay to include the parades, please enquire about prices.

Combinations: To combine this tour with Santiago and Chilean Patagonia, please see our Splendours of South America tour on pages 100-101.

Private & tailor-made travel: This itinerary

can be taken privately on a date that suits you or it can be tailored to your exact requirements. Guideline prices for private travel are based on different hotels in Rio and Iguazú. Please call 020 3627 3097 or visit CoxandKings.co.uk for further details.

#### **Guideline prices for 2020-21**

#### Group tour

Low season from £2,395 Guide price months: Sep, Dec

High season from £2,445 Guide price months: Jan - Mar, Oct - Nov

Single supplement from £645

#### Private travel

Low season from £2,695 Guide price months: Apr

High season from £2,795 Guide price months: Jan - Mar

Single supplement on request

The guideline high season prices may be significantly lower than the peak season prices (Carnival & New Year)

#### **British Airways flight upgrades**

World Traveller Plus from £445 return Club World from £2,395 return

#### **Regional air connections**

Prices on request. To/from Aberdeen, Belfast, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Manchester or Newcastle.

The guideline tour prices are all per person in UK pounds, based on two people sharing a twin / double room. For current prices for all departure dates, including special offers when applicable, please call 020 3627 3097 or visit CoxandKings.co.uk. All prices are subject to availability.

#### Departure dates for 2020-21

Out (Thu) Rtn (Sun) 30 Jan 20 09 Feb 20 <sup>†</sup> 20 Feb 20 29 Feb 20 12 Mar 20 22 Mar 20 23 Apr 20 03 May 20

Out (Thu) Rtn (Sun) 17 Sep 20 27 Sep 20 22 Oct 20 01 Nov 20 05 Nov 20 15 Nov 20 19 Nov 20 29 Nov 20

Out (Thu) Rtn (Sun) 03 Dec 20 13 Dec 20 28 Jan 21 07 Feb 21 †04 Feb 21 13 Feb 21 18 Feb 21 28 Feb 21

Out (Thu) Rtn (Sun) 04 Mar 21 14 Mar 21 18 Mar 21 28 Mar 21

## Argentina Hotels & Estancias

This is a selection of our recommended accommodation. Please see our website for more options.



#### **Boutique Hotels, Buenos Aires**

Buenos Aires is home to an increasing number of luxury boutique hotels, hidden behind neoclassical facades of former stately houses and mansions. Located in prestigious Recoleta or the bohemian neighbourhood of Palermo, these small, elegant retreats offer stylish rooms and a sophisticated, more intimate ambience, and often feature charming courtyard gardens or secluded roof terraces. Cox & Kings recommends Legado Mitico, Casa Sur, Mio and Hub Porteño.

#### Features:

11 to 36 rooms, lounge, bar, spa (selected properties only), Wi-Fi.



#### Llao Llao Hotel & Resort, Bariloche

Situated on a hill with magnificent views of the lakes, mountains and forests of Nahuel Huapi National Park, Llao Llao is a de luxe resort built in the style of a Canadian lodge. Rooms are spread across the traditional main lodge and its contemporary Moreno Wing. There is a spa, indoor and outdoor pools, and an 18-hole golf course. Activities available include horse riding, fly-fishing, cycling and birdwatching.

#### Features:

205 rooms, 2 restaurants, 2 bars, 2 swimming pools, spa, tennis courts, golf course.



#### Alvear Art Hotel, Buenos Aires

Centrally located in the heart of Buenos Aires, the Alvear Art is close to San Martin square and numerous shopping stores. The hotel features a sleek classic design with artworks, an impressive marble lobby area and spacious rooms with mahogany furnishings. The restaurant offers an international menu with regional ingredients. The rooftop swimming pool is an ideal place to unwind and enjoy superb panoramic views of the city.

#### Features:

139 rooms, restaurant, bar, swimming pool, spa, gym, Wi-Fi.



#### Eolo, near El Calafate

Set in the Anita valley, between El Calafate and Los Glaciares National Park, Eolo is a luxurious lodge, reminiscent of a traditional Patagonian estancia. The spacious rooms have elegant furnishings and views of Lake Argentino, the steppe and the mountains. The restaurant and lounge have panoramic views, and there is a small indoor pool and sauna. Activities include walking, birdwatching and stargazing.

#### Features:

17 rooms, restaurant, bar, indoor pool, sauna, library, Wi-Fi.



#### Estancia La Bamba de Areco, The Pampas

La Bamba is set within its own parkland, close to the gaucho town of San Antonio de Areco. A renovated property dating back to 1830, the estancia combines colonial elegance with contemporary comfort. Rooms feature dark wood floors, antique furniture and modern art while inviting public areas include a library and lounges. Guests can explore the plains on horseback or on foot, or relax by the pool.

#### Features:

11 rooms, indoor & outdoor dining, bar, lounge, pool, Wi-Fi.



#### Arakur, Ushuaia

Arakur sits on a hilltop with views of Ushuaia and the Beagle Channel. The public areas have a sophisticated decor featuring natural materials, large windows and fireplaces. The restaurant serves Argentine and international cuisine. The hotel is set within the private Cerro Alarkén Nature Reserve with 100 hectares of trails to explore. A complimentary hourly shuttle bus links the hotel and town centre.

#### Features:

131 rooms, restaurant, bar, 2 swimming pools, gym, Wi-Fi.



#### Cavas Wine Lodge, near Mendoza

Cavas Wine Lodge is set in a 24-hectare private valley among prestigious wine estates and benefits from wonderful views towards the Andes. Each of the detached guestrooms features a private deck, plunge pool and rooftop terrace with a fireplace. There is a first-class restaurant and extensive wine cellar, and guests can also dine alfresco in the vineyards. The spa offers a number of wine therapy treatments. Visits to local bodegas can be arranged.

#### Features:

18 rooms, restaurant, bar, wine cellar, outdoor pool, spa, Wi-Fi.



#### Legado Mitico, Salta

Legado Mitico is a small luxurious hotel converted from an old mansion, a few blocks from Salta's main square. Inspired by regional culture and history, each of the rooms, named after a local figure, is decorated with antiques and handicrafts. There is a lovely courtyard, roof terrace and lounge with a fireplace. The hotel does not have its own restaurant but serves breakfast, drinks and light snacks.

#### **Features:**

11 rooms, lounge-bar, roof terrace, parking spaces, Wi-Fi.



#### Awasi Iguazú

The latest addition to the Awasi portfolio, this luxurious jungle lodge sits on the banks of the Iguazú river and is just a 15-minute drive from the mighty Iguazú Falls. The individual villas, each with a private plunge pool, are nestled within the jungle and constructed on stilts for minimal environmental impact. There is an expansive main lodge and restaurant, and all guests are assigned a private guide and vehicle to help discover the region's diversity.

#### Features:

14 suites, private plunge pool, bar, restaurant, Wi-Fi.

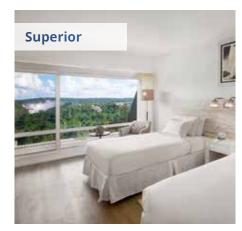


#### Viñas de Cafayate Wine Resort, Cafayate

Set on a small hill surrounded by vineyards, this charming colonial property offers spacious, well-appointed rooms built around a main central courtyard with views to the mountains, gardens or vineyards. Watch the setting sun and the changing shades of the mountains in the distance. Enjoy fine wines, peace and tranquillity and explore the nearby sleepy town.

#### Features:

22 rooms, wine cellar, outdoor swimming pool, restaurant, Wi-Fi.



#### Gran Meliá Iguazú

The Gran Meliá Iguazú is the only hotel located inside the Iguazú National Park on the Argentinian side of the falls and within walking distance of the cataracts. The contemporary rooms offer a private balcony and overlook the tropical surroundings or the majestic waterfalls. An impressive infinity pool and a restaurant with floor-to-ceiling windows also offer superb vistas of the crashing waters. There is also a lounge bar with an outdoor terrace.

#### Features:

176 rooms, restaurant, bar, 2 swimming pools, spa, Wi-Fi.



#### Rincón del Socorro, Iberá wetlands

Estancia Rincón del Socorro is a former cattle ranch and a conservation project on the edge of the Iberá wetlands. This eco-property has retained its colonial ambience and aims to bring guests into closer contact with the surrounding nature. The birdlife is abundant while nandus and capybaras roam freely around the grounds. Almost all of the wholesome food provided by the estancia is organic and locally sourced.

#### Features:

9 rooms, barbecue house, swimming pool, vegetable garden.







The largest country in South America, Brazil is an amazing blend of landscapes and cultures. Its natural wonders range from the mighty Amazon river and the world's largest rainforest to wild waterfalls, flat-topped mountains, expansive grasslands, immense dunes, unspoilt tropical beaches and an astonishing variety of flora and fauna.

A number of beautiful historic towns have well-preserved colonial houses and baroque churches, while the futuristic capital, Brasilia, is a Unesco world heritage site due to its striking modernist urban design. Brazil is full of vivid colours, exotic rhythms and an incredible diversity of people, all unified by a vigorous and contagious lust for life.

#### **Discover Brazil**

- 80 Rio de Janeiro, Iguaçu Falls and Paraty
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86 Brazil hotel collection

#### Climate

The weather in Brazil varies between regions due to the vastness of the country. The climate in Rio de Janeiro ranges from hot to pleasantly warm and is generally sunny, with rain usually falling in short showers. In Iguaçu and the south, temperatures drop a little between April and September and evenings are cool while Salvador de Bahia is generally hotter due to its location closer to the equator. In the Pantanal the dry season is between late April and October, which coincides with the nesting and breeding season for wildlife.

#### Rio de Janeiro

	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	s	0	N	D
Α	30	30	29	27	26	25	24	25	25	26	27	28
В	21	21	21	19	17	16	16	16	17	18	19	20
C	203	186	183	146	107	71	66	76	96	129	159	207

	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	32	32	31	27	24	22	23	24	26	29	31	32
В	21	20	19	16	13	11	10	11	13	16	17	19
С	171	153	157	145	146	140	94	105	149	201	142	162

Key: A: Maximum average temperature (C) B: Minimum average temperature (C) C: Average rainfall (mm)

Inspired to venture further afield? Browse our website to discover additional destinations, places to stay and itineraries; or speak to our Latin America experts.



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## Discover Brazil

#### Rio de Janeiro

#### Striking city backdrop • World-renowned beaches

Stunningly beautiful and vibrant, Rio is home to spectacular beaches, tropical forest, samba, football, unrivalled carnival parades and lively *cariocas* (Rio's residents). As well as the celebrated landmarks of Corcovado and Sugar Loaf mountain forming part of the city's magical backdrop, Rio offers a wealth of other attractions. In the old centre, historic alleys and colonial buildings coexist with neoclassical and modern architecture, revealing intriguing stories from Rio's past. An old tram still runs along the former aqueduct to the hillside neighbourhood of Santa Teresa, full of century-old mansions and artistic studios. The sweeping beaches of Ipanema, Leblon and Copacabana are perfect for relaxing. At night the city offers authentic Brazilian cultural experiences ranging from live samba and bossa nova venues to colourful Afro-Brazilian shows and carnival rehearsals.



Christ the Redeemer, Rio de Janeiro

#### Paraty & the Green Coast

### Coastal mountains • Paraty's colonial houses • Idyllic Ilha Grande

Set against a backdrop of lush tropical mountains south of Rio, the Green Coast is dotted with beautiful sandy beaches and charming little towns. Relaxing stays in or around historic Paraty can be combined with explorations of the cobbled streets and fine Portuguese colonial buildings of this picturesque town. Optional tours to beautiful waterfalls and the surrounding Atlantic rainforest are also on offer.

Off the coast, the unspoilt island of Ilha Grande offers pristine beaches, hidden coves and hikes in the lush jungle-covered hills. This laid-back destination is still untouched by mainstream tourism. There are no paved roads or motor vehicles and the small villages are accessed by boat or a network of trails.





Iguaçu Falls

#### Iguaçu Falls

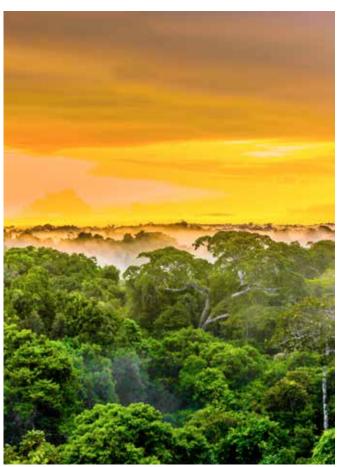
### Panoramic views & boat trips under the falls • Tropical birds & rainbows

Foz do Iguaçu National Park is home to one of the world's greatest natural wonders, Iguaçu Falls, as well as a vast array of wildlife including rare tropical birds and endangered jaguars. The dramatic spectacle of thundering white water is complemented by other wonderful sights including rainbows straddling clouds of spray, screeching green parrots flying across the waters and colourful butterflies hovering over lush greenery. A long paved walkway leads through sub-tropical forest to the bottom of the Floriana Falls, providing stunning views over to the Argentinian side. The rich and varied vegetation of the park includes orchids, bamboos, lianas and colourful begonias. Boat safaris and full moon tours can also be arranged.

#### Salvador

### Restored colonial Pelourinho • Lively Afro-Brazilian culture & ambience

Overlooking the beautiful All Saint's Bay, Salvador is one of the most exotic cities in the north-east of Brazil. Once a centre for the sugar and slave trade, it has a distinct atmosphere due to the rich mixture of Latin and African cultures. The delightful historic district of Pelourinho has impressive baroque churches and colourful colonial architecture while its cobblestone streets are filled with spicy aromas, graceful movements and the sounds of drumbeats. We recommend an evening Bahian show for an unforgettable insight into Afro-Brazilian religion, music and dance. Salvador is also a gateway to the Chapada Diamantina National Park with its striking flat-top mountains, enchanting small towns and an extraordinary variety of ecosystems.



Amazon rainforest



Pelourinho, Salvador de Bahia

#### The Amazon

#### Rainforest sounds & sights • Meeting of the Waters

The Amazon, the world's largest tropical rainforest, covers almost half of Brazil's territory. Mighty waters, ranging from yellow-brown to blueblack, cut through the thick jungle, home to a spectacular biodiversity of flora and fauna. The majority of wildlife is hidden in the canopy but common sightings include caimans, monkeys, toucans and pink river dolphins. River cruises and jungle lodge stays can be arranged to explore the Amazon tributaries and forest in canoes or on nature walks.

The city of Manaus is a gateway to the region and a starting point for boat trips along the river. Not far from the town, at the confluence of the Rio Negro and the Solimões, a fascinating spectacle can be observed – the dark and sandy coloured waters of the two rivers flow side by side for 6.5km before merging. Only from this point on is the river called the Amazon.

#### C&K Recommends...

#### Manaus Opera House

The short-lived rubber boom of Manaus left behind a number of opulent buildings, including the flamboyant Teatro Amazonas. This opulent opera house was modelled after the one in Paris and hosted various famed artists during its heyday. Its incredible dome is covered with thousands of tiles painted in the colours of the Brazilian flag and the sumptuous interiors showcase furnishings brought across from Europe.

#### A suggested itinerary...

#### **Classic Brazil**

15 days & 13 nights from £4,095 Category • Superior or Luxury

Visit some of the spectacular highlights of Brazil, combining beautiful Rio and vibrant Salvador, with the natural wonders of Iguaçu Falls and the Amazon, before ending your trip on a tropical beach.

#### Days 1-3: Fly to Rio de Janeiro

Fly to Rio for 3 nights and enjoy spectacular views over the city's bays and mountains. (B)

#### Days 4-5: Fly to Iguaçu

Fly to Iguaçu and explore the magnificent

falls. Option to stay at the **Belmond Hotel** das Cataratas\*, the only hotel within the Brazilian national park. (B)

#### Days 6-8: Fly to Manaus

Fly to Manaus and stay in a jungle lodge or take a river cruise for 3 nights. Experience the sights, sounds and smells of the rainforest. (B, L, D)

#### Days 9-10: Fly to Salvador

Fly to Salvador and stay for 2 nights. Tour the historic city and discover its mixture of Latin and African cultures. (B)

#### Days 11-13: Brazilian coast

Relax for 3 nights on one of the beautiful wide sandy beaches that stretch along the north-east coast. (B, D)

Days 14-15: Fly home via Rio / São Paulo (B)(N)

#### **Superior Guideline Prices** (incl. flights) Low season from: £4,095 (May)

High season from: £4,295 (Jan – Mar)

\*Luxury Guideline Prices (incl. flights) Low season from: £5,195 (May) High season from: £5,295 (Jan – Mar)

Tour code: CBZ / BIS

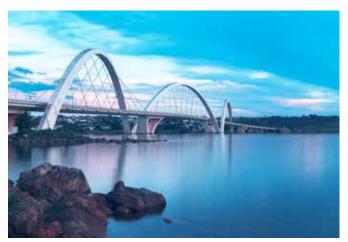


#### The Pantanal

#### Premier wildlife destination • Captivating sunsets

The Pantanal, the world's largest freshwater wetland, supports a vast biological diversity, from capybaras and giant anteaters to howler monkeys and an enormous variety of birds, which are all easy to spot due to the lack of dense vegetation. An extraordinary annual cycle of floods and drought defines life here: aquatic species flourish during the rainy season from November to March, while mammals return when the waters recede in April. During the driest months from July to October, birds breed. Stays in comfortable lodges can be arranged, accessed via Campo Grande in the south or Cuiabá in the north, complete with nature walks, horse rides, canoe trips, birdwatching and 4x4 safaris.

The 500-million-year-old Chapada dos Guimarães is easily combined with the northern Pantanal and is considered the geographic centre of South America. Its scenic plateaux with canyons and numerous waterfalls host a variety of endemic flora and fauna.



JK Bridge, Brasilia



Hyacinth macaw, Pantanal



Ouro Preto, Minas Gerais

#### Brasilia

#### Unique urban architecture • Fascinating stopover city

Situated in the heart of the country, the federal capital of Brazil is a spectacular feat of urban and architectural design, built in just four years on uninhabited land. The clean-lined city plan by famous architect Oscar Niemeyer is often compared to an aeroplane or bird in flight when seen from the air. The strikingly innovative style and impressive buildings have won the city its Unesco world cultural heritage designation. Brasilia is also an excellent stopover en route to the Pantanal or the Amazon. The nearby Chapada dos Veadeiros contains unusual landscapes, refreshing natural pools and rare animal and plant species typical of the tropical *cerrado* (savannah).

#### Colonial Towns of Minas Gerais

#### Elaborate baroque churches • Cobbled streets

Set amid verdant rolling hills, the historic gold-mining towns in the state of Minas Gerais have some of Brazil's finest colonial heritage. The elaborately decorated churches of Ouro Preto contain opulent gold-leaf interiors and fine masterpieces, while 18th-century whitewashed houses line the winding streets. Further south, the picturesque town of Tiradentes has many colonial buildings now converted into art galleries or characterful pousadas. There are more outstanding art and architectural treasures to be discovered in São João del Rei, Congonhas and Mariana, the oldest of the colonial mining towns.

#### A suggested itinerary...

#### **Brazil: Wildlife & Waterfalls**

12 days & 9 nights from £3,495 Category • Standard

Experience the contrasting scenery and distinctive cultures of Brazil, including the Pantanal wetlands, the thrilling Iguaçu Falls and glamorous Rio de Janeiro.

**Days 1-2: Fly to Brasilia via Sao Paulo** Fly to Brasilia overnight with British Airways. Take a tour of the city, famed for its unique design and architecture. Overnight stay. (N) (B)

#### Days 3-5: Fly to the Pantanal

Fly to the Pantanal and stay for 3 nights at an eco-lodge. Local excursions include walks, boat trips and canoeing on the lake to spot monkeys, caiman, capybaras, giant anteaters, toucans, jabiru storks and jacanas. (B, L, D)

#### Days 6-7: Fly to Iguacú

Fly to Iguaçu and stay for 2 nights. Visit this amazing spectacle on both the Argentinian and Brazilian sides of the thundering waterfalls. (B)

#### Days 8-10: Fly to Rio de Janeiro

Fly to Rio for a 3-night stay. Take a full-day tour of Rio, including Corcovado and Sugar Loaf mountain for spectacular views. Enjoy time at leisure. (B)

Days 11-12: Fly to London (B) (N)

**Guideline Prices** (incl. flights) Low season from: £3,495 (Mar) High season from: £3,595 (May, Sep)

Tour code: BRI





Praia do Forte, Bahia

Lençóis Maranhenses

#### Beaches of Brazil

Golden stretches of sand • Tropical islands • Marine sanctuaries

Brazil's vast coastline of more than 7,000km is fringed with thousands of stunning beaches and islands. These range from the golden sands of the Buzios peninsula, near Rio (see page 84) to the endless tropical stretches of the north. The coast of Santa Catarina in the south has large sweeping crescents of soft sand that are buzzing in summer and deserted in the cooler winter months. Further south, at Praia da Rosa, southern right whales frequent the coast between July and November.

The tropical north-east coast is characterised by stunning palm-fringed beaches and year-round sunshine and warm waters. Chic beach destinations or stunning hideaway retreats can be found throughout Bahia. The natural pools at Porto de Galinhas in the state of Pernambuco provide a chance to swim with colourful fish while further north there are empty stretches, white dunes and delightfully sleepy fishing villages. This is the perfect region to get away from it all and unwind.

#### The Far North-East

Off the beaten track • Dunes & tropical deltas • Unspoilt beaches & fishing villages

Located just below the equator, Brazil's remote north-eastern states provide superb off-the-beaten-track experiences. Serra da Capivara, the oldest archaeological site in the Americas, hides an incredible collection of prehistoric rock paintings in the harsh, dry interior of the sertão (bushlands).

Closer to the ocean, the historic buildings of São Luis are covered with distinctive painted tiles, while Lençóis Maranhenses is a stunning natural phenomenon of sweeping white dunes and turquoise freshwater lagoons, best observed between May and September. The coastline is cut by lush tropical deltas with largely untouched wildlife and unspoilt fishing villages that nestle behind desert beaches. Laid-back Jericoacoara has sandy streets and a huge windswept dune, where locals and tourists alike gather at dusk to watch the sun fall off the ocean's edge.

#### A suggested itinerary...

#### **North-East Explorer**

7 days & 6 nights from £965 Category • Standard

This off-the-beaten-track land-only journey explores some of Brazil's little-known secrets and can be combined with other Brazilian destinations.

Day 1: São Luis

Arrive in São Luis and stay for 1 night. (N)

Day 2: Barreirinhas

Head to Barreirinhas for an overnight stay

and explore the rolling white-powder dunes and blue lagoons of Lençóis Maranhenses. (B)

#### Day 3: Parnaíba

Take a boat along the Rio Preguiças and visit small river settlements. Drive along the deserted ocean beach to the river port of Parnaíba for an overnight stay. (B)

#### Days 4-6: Jericoacoara

Explore the vast Parnaíba delta before driving to Jericoacoara, a former fishing village surrounded by golden dunes, for a 3-night stay. (B)

#### Day 7: Fortaleza

Transfer to Fortaleza (approximately 4-5 hours). Fly home or continue your journey. (B)

**Extension:** It is also possible to add a visit to the semi-arid Serra da Capivara National Park.

**Guideline Prices** (excl. flights) Low season from: £965 (Mar – Apr) High season from: £1,095 (May – Sep)

Tour code: BNE



## **Experiences in Brazil**



#### Sugar Loaf & Corcovado

Rio's most iconic sights provide breathtaking views over the city's spectacular panorama of mountains, beaches, islands and bays. Take an early train through tropical forest to the outstretched arms of the statue of Christ the Redeemer on Corcovado mountain and a cable car at sunset to the top of Sugar Loaf. Helicopter rides offer a bird's-eye view and leave no doubt as to why Rio is dubbed *cidade maravilhosa* (marvellous city).



#### Rio Carnival

Carnival in Rio is a riot of music, dance and colour, unrivalled outside Brazil. Watch the carnival parade at the purpose-built Sambadrome, where thousands of dancers compete, and witness a dazzling spectacle of thundering drums, dancing beauties, spectacular floats and elaborate costumes. Alternatively, take part in the procession or join the festivities at a sophisticated gala ball.



#### Birdwatching in the Pantanal

The Pantanal is home to more than 650 bird species including toucans, kingfishers, egrets, parrots, jacanas, endangered hyacinth macaws and the metre-tall jabiru storks. A large variety can be observed along lake shores throughout the year but the most remarkable flocks are encountered during the dry season. A fascinating spectacle not to be missed is the returning of countless birds to their evening roosts at sunset.



#### Tijuca Jeep tour

Tijuca is a tropical rainforest right at the edge of the city of Rio. It is one of the largest urban forests in the world and part of Brazil's endangered Atlantic forest ecosystem. Travel in an open 4x4 Jeep and explore the lush vegetation on a short hike – you may spot monkeys, sloths and exotic birds. Visit the picturesque Macacos (Monkey's) waterfall and enjoy sweeping views over the city and its renowned beaches.



#### **Buzios beach stay**

Buzios is situated just two and a half hours' drive from Rio, on a peninsula with more than 20 golden sandy beaches surrounded by turquoise waters. The town has kept its original fishing village charm and is a sophisticated and relaxed resort with numerous restaurants and lively bars. The beautiful coastline can be explored on a boat trip with stops at various tranquil beaches and nearby islands.



#### Jaguar spotting, Pantanal

The Pantanal is one of the remaining strongholds for the continent's largest and most elusive cat. In the north, the best area for sightings is the protected park near Porto Jofre at the end of the Transpantaneira – a dirt road that carves through the heart of this vast and wild area. The Caiman Ecological Refuge in the south runs a conservation project and offers dedicated jaguar tracking programmes. Chances for a privileged view are greatest from July to October.



#### Helicopter ride over Iguaçu

A thrilling 10-minute overflight provides a unique bird's-eye view of the entire park and tumbling waters that make up Iguaçu. Enjoy panoramic vistas of the magnificent waterfalls, the surrounding forest stretching for miles and the immense river that meanders through it. The flight is subject to weather conditions and can be extended to the Three Borders Landmark, where Brazil meets Argentina and Paraguay.



#### Amazon Clipper Premium cruise

The Amazon Clipper Premium offers 2-, 3- or 5-night superior small river cruises along the mighty Amazon. This traditional boat has 16 cabins, all with outside windows, air conditioning and low beds. There is a dining room, large sun deck with jacuzzi and observation platform offering 360-degree rainforest views. Experienced naturalist guides lead daily excursions to explore the remote surroundings.



#### Ibitipoca Reserve, Minas Gerais

The Ibitipoca Reserve is a private 4,000-hectare sustainably preserved land adjacent to the Ibitipoca State Park, about a 3.5-hour drive north of Rio. The region is an outdoor lover's paradise with forest trails, abundant birdlife and picturesque waterfalls. Stay at an 18th-century farmhouse or a rustic-chic private cottage, enjoy the best of rural Brazil's landscape, immerse yourself in tranquil nature and indulge in delicious regional food.



#### Bahian folklore show, Salvador

This stunning professional performance by a prestigious folkloric ballet company takes place in a small Pelourinho theatre and features Bahian dances of African origin including exhilarating swirling samba, the sacred dances of the Candomblé religion and dramatic *capoeira* (martial art-dance). The explosive drumming and frenzied display of the musicians and performers often brings audiences to their feet.



#### Remote Alta Floresta

Accessed via a flight from Cuiabá, this far-flung region stretches across the southern Amazon and encompasses the Cristalino protected park and the adjacent private reserve. The area contains pristine rainforest that supports abundant fauna and flora, with a large number of endemic species. This unique sanctuary is particularly well recognised among birdwatchers and butterfly enthusiasts.



#### Fernando de Noronha

This pristine archipelago, 350km off the north-east Pernambuco coast, consists of 21 volcanic islands, of which only one is inhabited. This ecological sanctuary has idyllic beaches and an abundance of marine life including turtles, rays, friendly sharks and dolphins and can be enjoyed in complete serenity or on a variety of excursions. Fernando de Noronha's isolation and exclusivity come at premium prices but offer a once-in-a-lifetime paradisiacal experience.

## **Brazil Hotel Collection**

This is a selection of our recommended accommodation. Please see our website for more options.



#### Belmond Copacabana Palace, Rio de Janeiro

One of the world's landmark hotels, this graceful, white stucco, art deco property is superbly located on the famous Copacabana promenade. Known for its sumptuous style, impeccable service and elegant rooms and suites, the hotel features two of South America's finest restaurants. The piano bar, pool and terrace are at the heart of Rio's social life.

#### Features:

241 rooms, 3 restaurants, bar, outdoor swimming pool, spa, tennis courts, Wi-Fi.



#### Fasano Salvador

Set in the historic Pelourinho, the Fasano Salvador occupies a 1930s landmark building and overlooks the Bay of All Saints. Spacious and stylish rooms feature shades of blue that reflect the building's original decor, with hardwood parquet floors and local artwork. Unparalleled views of the bay can be enjoyed from the sleek rooftop pool and bar, also a prime location for watching the sunset.

#### Features:

70 rooms & suites, restaurant, bar, swimming pool, sauna, spa, Wi-Fi.



#### Windsor California, Rio de Janeiro

The Windsor California is ideally located on the world-famous Copacabana beach. Rooms, some of which are oceanfront with ceiling-to-floor windows, all feature a contemporary decor in neutral tones, dark wooden furnishings and marble bathrooms. There is a rooftop terrace with a small pool and panoramic ocean views. A complimentary beach service provides guests with towels and an umbrella for the beach.

#### Features:

157 rooms, restaurant, bar, rooftop pool, gym, sauna.



#### Solar do Rosário, Ouro Preto

Solar do Rosário is a historic 19th-century colonial building located on a small plaza by Nossa Senhora do Rosario church. This renovated property features period furnishings, polished hardwood floors, beautiful tiles and wrought iron balconies while rooms have a simple yet elegant decor. There is a restaurant with a wine cellar and a rooftop swimming pool and terrace with views over the city.

#### Features:

41 rooms, restaurant, bar, 2 swimming pools,



#### Belmond Hotel das Cataratas, Iguaçu

The only hotel located within the Brazilian Iguaçu National Park, the property is just a short walk away from the magnificent falls, allowing exclusive access to the walkways at dawn and dusk when the park is closed to visitors. Occupying a colonial-style building, the elegant guestrooms overlook the lush grounds and rainforest. Guests can relax by the large outdoor pool, at the spa or with a drink on the terrace.

#### Features:

193 rooms, 2 restaurants, bar, outdoor swimming pool, gym, spa, tennis court.



#### Pousada do Ouro, Paraty

Pousada do Ouro is set on a cobbled street in the historic centre of Paraty. Built in the 19th century, this charming hotel blends modernity with comfort, while maintaining its colonial charm. Rooms vary in their size and furnishings but all are painted in bright colours and have Brazilian touches. The hotel has a delightful pool and garden while the beach is just a 10-minute walk away.

#### Features:

27 rooms, bar, spa, swimming pool, garden,

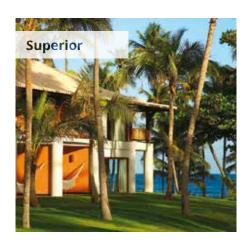


#### Ponta dos Ganchos, near Florianopolis

Ponta dos Ganchos is an exclusive resort set on a secluded, forested, private peninsula to the north of Florianopolis, on Brazil's southern coast. The luxurious bungalows, some of which have a private pool, jacuzzi or sauna, feature terraces with wonderful views across the emerald waters of the little bay and islands. There is a private beach, tennis court, beachside restaurant and indoor swimming pool.

#### Features:

25 bungalows, restaurant, bar, indoor swimming pool, spa, Wi-Fi.



#### Tivoli Ecoresort, Praia do Forte

The Tivoli Ecoresort is one hour's drive from Salvador on the coast of Bahia. This delightful, relaxed resort is surrounded by long stretches of uncrowded, palm-fringed sandy beaches and tropical forest, and is situated close to a turtle sanctuary. The resort features spacious rooms with a terrace or balcony, gourmet dining options and a range of leisure activities and ecological tours.

#### **Features:**

292 rooms, 3 restaurants, 2 bars, multiple outdoor swimming pools, tennis courts, spa.



#### Nannai Resort & Spa, near Recife

The Nannai Resort & Spa is located near Recife on Brazil's beautiful, north-eastern coastline. Characterised by white sandy beaches, coconut palms and crystal-clear waters, the emphasis here is purely on relaxation. The resort comprises terraced guestrooms and individual bungalows in the style of Polynesian houses, each featuring a private pool, jacuzzi or massage gazebo.

#### Features:

91 rooms, restaurant, 2 bars, swimming pool, tennis court, spa.



#### Amazon Ecopark Lodge, near Manaus

Situated in a protected rainforest reserve on the banks of the Taruma river, a tributary of the Rio Negro, the lodge is less than 30 minutes by boat from Manaus. The simple but comfortable air-conditioned rooms are set in 22 rustic bungalows and decorated with indigenous Amazonian crafts. The lodge offers a range of activities and excursions, and has natural pools and a private beach on the river.

#### **Features:**

70 rooms, open-air restaurant, bar, natural water pools.



#### Casas Brancas, Buzios

The whitewashed boutique-style Casas Brancas is set on a hillside, just a short walk from the main street of Rua das Pedras and the beaches. The stylish and individually decorated guestrooms, many with balconies, are spread across different levels. The sun deck terrace and the small pool overlook the bay and offer a perfect setting for watching the sunset while the restaurant is rated among the best in town.

#### Features:

32 rooms, restaurant, bar, swimming pool, spa, Wi-Fi.



#### Pousada do Rio Mutum, Pantanal

Nestled between the lakes of Sia Mariana and Chacorore in one of the most beautiful areas of the northern Pantanal, this lodge offers simple but comfortable rooms with verandas and hammocks, scattered in cottages throughout the gardens. Take small group excursions to discover the wildlife and landscapes of this unique ecosystem, including alligator spotting, birdwatching, fishing, canoeing and nature treks.

#### Features:

22 rooms, restaurant, bar, tropical gardens, swimming pool.





# Colombia & the Guianas

#### Group tours • Tailor-made travel

Colombia is a fascinating country stretching from high Andean peaks and the lush Amazon basin to Caribbean and Pacific coastlines and offers an intriguing mix of diverse landscapes, colonial heritage and modernity. Discover exciting cultural hubs and well-preserved gems, explore traces of ancient civilisations, visit a coffee plantation, search for wildlife in pristine rainforests, relax on tropical beaches or go whale watching on the Pacific coast. The Colombians are warm and most welcoming, quick to dispel any negative stereotype that may linger from their past.

Further along the Caribbean coast lie some of the smallest and least known countries in South America. Covered in dense rainforests, the Guianas remain a melting pot of cultural influences still largely untouched by mass tourism. Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana can be explored individually or easily combined in one trip.

#### **Discover Colombia**

- 90 Bogotá & surrounds, Coffee Country, Medellín, Cartagena & the Caribbean
- 91 Experiences in Colombia

#### Small group & private tours

92 Treasures of Colombia • Group or private

#### **Discover the Guianas**

- 94 Guyana, Suriname & French Guiana
- 95 Experiences in the Guianas

#### Climate

Colombia is a year-round destination. Conditions in Bogotá are spring-like for the most part due to the altitude, while Cartagena on the Caribbean coast is tropical with short, intense showers between May and November. The climate of the Guianas is hot year-round, both day and night. There are two 'rainy' seasons: early May to mid-July and late November to early January.

#### Bogotá, Colombia

	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	18	18	18	18	17	16	16	17	17	17	17	18
В	5	5	6	7	7	7	7	6	6	7	6	5
C	23	33	46	104	101	94	75	61	62	107	104	41

#### Georgetown, Guyana

	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	29	29	30	30	30	30	30	31	31	31	31	29
В	23	23	24	24	24	24	23	24	24	24	24	24
C	232	129	141	161	298	318	263	179	74	83	143	295

Key: A: Maximum average temperature (C) B: Minimum average temperature (C) C: Average rainfall (mm)

Inspired to venture further afield? Browse our website to discover additional destinations, places to stay and itineraries; or speak to our Latin America experts.



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## Discover Colombia



Botero Plaza, Medellín

#### Bogotá & Surrounds

#### Gold Museum • Colonial treasures

Bogotá, Colombia's fascinating capital, is home to the superb Gold Museum, with the world's most complete collection of ancient gold artefacts. The historic Candelaria district has colonial heritage and a cable car climbs up the Monserrat hill for panoramic views of the city. To the north, near the town of Zipaquirá, an amazing cathedral is built inside an old salt mine, while the small lake of Guatavita is a famous Muisca sacred site and part of the El Dorado myth.



Coffee plantations

#### Coffee Country

#### Fertile hillsides & plantations • Traditional villages

The lush countryside of Colombia's coffee region is dotted with a plethora of small plantations and picturesque villages, and is recognised by Unesco as a unique cultural landscape. It is possible to relax in a delightful hacienda (converted country house) and learn about centennial traditions of coffee growing. The cloud forest of Los Nevados National Park is home to orchids and hummingbirds, while native wax palm trees, the tallest in the world, grow in the verdant Cocora valley.



#### Medellín

#### Vibrant cultural hub • Social transformation projects

This cosmopolitan city is a vibrant cultural hub with numerous bars, restaurants and art galleries. Visitors can stroll through leafy parks, travel on the pioneering public transportation network and discover the bronze creations of Colombia's most famous artist at the Botero Plaza. During the annual Flower Festival in July / August, the streets fill with flowers and fragrance. Nearby Santa Fe de Antioquia with its pastel-coloured houses remains largely unchanged since colonial times.



Cartagena

#### Cartagena & the Caribbean

#### Beautiful fortified town • Unspoilt beaches & azure sea

The colourful Caribbean port of Cartagena is a true colonial gem. The Unesco-protected walled city enchants visitors with its well-preserved architecture, some of the finest on the continent. Stay in a restored colonial house and take a day trip to the coral Rosario islands. Further north lies the beautiful Tayrona National Park, while a world apart and off the Nicaragua coast is the laid-back island of Providencia with unique Raizal culture, mangrove-clad lagoons and turquoise waters.

## Experiences in Colombia



#### Villa de Leyva

Situated a 3-hour drive north of Bogotá, this beautifully preserved 16th-century town has hardly changed with the passing of time. Stroll along picturesque cobbled streets lined with crimson bougainvillea and whitewashed houses, and soak up the colonial-era atmosphere in the main square, one of the largest in the Americas. Outside the town, visit a historic Dominican convent and see the world's most complete kronosaurus fossil at El Fosil museum.



#### Cartagena walking tour

Cartagena's picturesque walled city and its colonial attractions are best explored on foot. Discover old Spanish fortifications, historic convents, beautiful churches, winding alleyways, stunning mansions with overhanging flower-filled balconies and small attractive plazas. Peruse small but interesting museums, visit the baroque Inquisition Palace and the imposing San Pedro Claver church, then soak up the atmosphere at a nearby open-air cafe.



#### San Agustín archaeological treasures

The San Agustín archaeological park lies in the mountainous Upper Magdalena region of Colombia's south-west. The largest collection of religious monuments and megalithic sculptures in South America can be found here and at several nearby sites. This amazing array of imposing statues (many of anthropomorphic figures and up to 4 metres tall), stone slabs and burial chambers was created by a mysterious pre-Columbian culture.



#### Social transformation tour, Medellín

Following a number of troubled years, notorious Medellín has blossomed into a stylish city and is today a shining example of social transformation and urban regeneration. Visit once marginalised neighbourhoods and learn how they have been transformed through social and innovative projects. See the outdoor electric staircases of Comuna 13, take in some of the graffiti and street art or partake in a cookery class with people from the local community.



#### Tayrona National Park, Caribbean coast

The lush Sierra Nevada mountains meet the Caribbean Sea at the beautiful and rugged Tayrona National Park, a 1-hour drive from the town of Santa Marta. The pristine palm-fringed beaches are set in deep bays and the untouched rainforest is home to spider monkeys and numerous birds. Stay in eco-chic properties and take nature hikes through the jungle or visit sacred pre-Columbian civilisation archaeological sites.



#### Corocora luxury tented camp, Los Llanos

Explore the tropical savannahs of Los Llanos from this exclusive, newly opened tented camp, set within a remote private reserve. Journey across the grasslands on horseback or by foot in search of capybaras, anacondas and giant anteaters, spot howler monkeys and a bewildering array of birds in the forest canopy or help local cowboys herd cattle. Back at the camp, enjoy 360-degree vistas from the social tent and listen to traditional music by the bonfire.

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## Treasures of Colombia

**Duration** • 13 days & 10 nights **Category** • Standard

#### This group tour features...

- ❖ 3- & 4-star accommodation
- Direct international flights with Avianca
- Internal flights
- Flexible extensions & flight upgrades available
- Average group size 10 people (max 26)
- Transfers in air-conditioned vehicles
- Experienced local tour guides in each destination
- 11 breakfasts, 2 lunches
- Guided sightseeing & entrance fees
- Porterage at airports

#### Weather

#### Cartagena

	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	31	31	31	32	32	32	32	32	32	31	31	31
В	23	23	24	24	25	25	25	25	25	24	24	23
С	8	2	6	34	102	110	97	130	140	218	129	35

A: Maximum average temperature (C) B: Minimum average temperature (C) C: Average rainfall (mm)



**Group tour •** From £2,295 (incl. flights) **Private tour •** From £2,695 (incl. flights)



Cocora valley

Travel from Andean peaks to tropical Caribbean coastlines, passing through the mountain capital of Bogotá, picturesque Villa de Leyva, fertile coffee country, vibrant Medellín and the colonial port of Cartagena, one of South America's most beautiful towns.

#### C&K Signature experiences

- Visit the superb Gold Museum in Bogotá& a lively local market
- Stay at a colonial-style hacienda in coffee country
- Insight into the cultural & social transformation of Medellín
- Soak up the atmosphere of colourful Cartagena on a walking tour

#### Day 1: Fly to Bogotá

Overnight flight from London (regional connections available) to Bogotá with Avianca. (N)

#### Day 2: Villa de Leyva

Early morning arrival and transfer by road to Villa de Leyva, one of Colombia's finest colonial towns. En route, stop at Tunja and Boyacá bridge, the site of the turning point in Colombia's struggle for independence.

Stay 2 nights at the **Posada de San Antonio**. Afternoon at leisure. (B)

#### Day 3: Villa de Leyva

Full-day tour of this beautiful town of cobbled streets lined with whitewashed houses. Visit the nearby 120-million-year-old kronosaurus fossil and the Dominican convent. (B)

#### Day 4: Bogotá

Transfer by road back to Bogotá, stopping at Zipaquirá en route to see the remarkable salt cathedral, built inside an old salt mine. Stay at the Novotel Bogotá Parque 93 for 2 nights. (B)

#### Day 5: Bogotá

Morning visit to Paloquemao market with its array of flowers and exotic fruits. Continue with a walking tour of the historic La Candelaria district, see Botero's art collection and visit the Gold Museum, featuring one of the world's most complete collections of ancient gold artefacts. Afternoon at leisure or optional cable car ride to Monserrat hill for panoramic views. (B)

#### Day 6: Fly to Pereira

Fly to Pereira in the coffee region, declared a world heritage site by Unesco. Visit a local coffee farm to learn about the growing and production of high quality coffee beans. Afternoon at leisure and stay for 2 nights at the **Hacienda San José**, an old colonial-style house with delightful gardens. (B)

#### Day 7: Coffee region

Today explore the verdant Cocora valley, famous for its wax palm trees – the tallest in the world. Take a ride in a typical Jeep, walk into the cloud forest and visit the traditional villages of Filandia and Salento. (B, L)

#### Day 8: Medellín

Travel by road to Medellín (journey time approximately 6-7 hours), stopping at a scenic lookout for views over the Cauca river. Stay for 2 nights at the **Hotel Poblado Alejandria**. (B)

#### Day 9: Medellín

A full-day tour to learn about the cultural and social transformation projects of the city. Visit Cerro Nutibara hill for panoramic views, the curved sculptures by local artist Fernando Botero and the gigantic outdoor escalators. Lunch is at Via Cocina, a community project providing healthy food training for low-income local residents. (B, L)

#### Day 10: Fly to Cartagena

Transfer to the airport and fly to the beautiful Caribbean city of Cartagena. Stay at the **Santa Catalina** or **Hotel Kartaxa** for 2 nights. (B)



#### Cartagena

#### Day 11: Cartagena

Half-day tour of Cartagena, including a walking tour of the old town, a visit to the impregnable Spanish fort, San Felipe, and San Pedro Claver church with its fine stained-glass windows. (B)

#### Days 12-13: Fly to London via Bogotá

Morning at leisure in the historic city or an optional visit to the national aviary.

Overnight flight to London via Bogotá with Avianca. (B) (N)

**Meal basis:** As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

#### Extensions

#### Tour + San Agustín

4 days & 2 nights from £695 Tour code: TCOSAG

Travel to the south and explore the elaborate pre-Columbian ceremonial sites of San Agustín including huge carved stones, burial tombs and impressive statues.

#### Day 12: Fly to Pitalito via Bogotá • San Agustín

Morning flight to Bogotá and on to Pitalito. Transfer by road (approximately 1 hour) to the small town of San Agustín and stay at

Akawanka Lodge for 2 nights. (B)

#### Day 13: San Agustín

Full-day tour to San Agustín Archaeological Park and the Magdalena river. Visit the small museum, explore the enormous stone statuary and see the Fuente de Lavapatas site, a religious monument carved in the stone bed of a stream. (B)

#### Days 14-15: Fly to London via Bogotá

Return to Pitalito and fly to Bogotá to connect to an overnight flight to London with Avianca. (B) (N)

#### Tour + Tayrona National Park

5 days & 3 nights from £625 Tour code: TCOTAY

Extend your journey on the rugged, unspoilt palm-fringed beaches of Tayrona National Park, where the lush Sierra Nevada mountains meet the turquoise Caribbean Sea.

#### Days 12-14: Tayrona National Park

Transfer by road (approximately 5 hours) to the Tayrona National Park. Stay 3 nights at the **Ecohabs**, a collection of thatched splitlevel cabañas built from natural wood and overlooking the sea. Days at leisure on the coast or take optional excursions. (B)

#### Days 15-16: Fly to London via Bogotá

Transfer to the Santa Marta airport for a flight to Bogotá and on to London with Avianca. (B) (N)

#### **Important information**

**Locally escorted tour:** This tour is lead in each destination en route by a local tour guide.

**Private & tailor-made travel:** This itinerary can be taken privately on a date that suits you, for which guideline prices are shown. Alternatively, it can be tailored to your exact requirements. Please call 020 3627 3097 or visit CoxandKings.co.uk/make-an-enquiry

Tour code: TCO

#### **Guideline prices for 2020-21**

#### Group tour

Low season from N/A Guide price months: N/A

High season from £2,295 Guide price months: Feb – Mar, Aug – Nov

Single supplement from £495

#### Private travel

Low season from £2,695 Guide price months: Apr

High season from £2,795 Guide price months: Jan – Feb, Sep – Nov

Single supplement on request

The guideline high season prices may be significantly lower than the peak season prices (21 Dec – 06 Jan)

#### Avianca flight upgrades

Business Class from £2,095 return

#### **Regional air connections**

British Airways to/from Belfast, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Manchester or Newcastle. Prices on request.

The guideline tour prices are all per person in UK pounds, based on two people sharing a twin / double room. For current prices for all departure dates, including special offers when applicable, please call 020 3627 3097 or visit CoxandKings.co.uk. All prices are subject to availability.

#### Departure dates for 2020-21

Out (Sat)	Rtn (Thu)	Out (Sat)	Rtn (Thu)	Out (Sat)	Rtn (Thu)
08 Feb 20	20 Feb 20	22 Aug 20	03 Sep 20	06 Feb 21	18 Feb 21
21 Mar 20	02 Apr 20	07 Nov 20	19 Nov 20		

## Discover the Guianas



Georgetown, Guyana



#### Guyana

### Incredible biodiversity • Abundant wildlife • Amerindian communities

Guyana is a wilderness destination with much to offer to nature lovers with an adventurous streak. Covered with pristine rainforest, interspersed with savannahs and laced with criss-crossing rivers, this English-speaking country teems with wildlife and rare flora. The capital, Georgetown, on the banks of the Demerara river, features unique Dutch wooden architecture, a Caribbean vibe and rum distilleries. It is possible to explore the botanical gardens, take a day trip by air to the awe-inspiring Kaieteur Falls or a sunset birding river cruise. In the interior, where travel is by light-aircraft, on unpaved roads or by boat, the rainforests of the lwokrama and Pakaraima mountains form part of the world's largest remaining tract of pristine tropical forest, the Guiana Shield. Further south, where grasslands, swamp and flooded forest meet, birdlife abounds. Visitors can stay at remote field stations, Amerindian community-run eco lodges and isolated cattle ranches.

#### Suriname & French Guiana

Maroon jungle villages • Colonial-era plantations • European Space Centre • Tropical islands

Dutch-speaking Suriname, one of the smallest countries in South America, is a fascinating mix of Asian, African, Amerindian and Dutch cultures. Explore the multicultural and historic capital of Paramaribo and visit colonial-era plantations in the Commewijne district. In the dense rainforest of the interior discover Amerindian settlements, rivers, waterfalls and wildlife, and traditional Maroon villages, home to descendants of runaway plantation slaves.

Tiny French Guiana, half the size of its neighbour Suriname, offers a mix of tropical South America and modern France with gendarmes, outdoor cafes, colonial-era buildings, rainforest and plantations. Highlights include the capital Cayenne, the tropical Iles du Salut (including infamous Devil's Island), the European Space Centre at Kourou and the historic ruined transportation centre in St Laurent du Maroni. The country is easily combined with Suriname.

#### A suggested itinerary...

#### Guyana: The Caribbean Amazon

15 days & 13 nights from £5,245 Category • Discovery

This itinerary takes in the highlights of Guyana and operates on set dates as a nonexclusive small group tour. It can also be taken on an individual basis at any time.

#### Day 1: Georgetown

Fly to Georgetown, via the Caribbean. Stay at Cara Lodge for 2 nights. (N)

#### Day 2: Kaieteur Falls

Visit Kaieteur Falls by light aircraft. (B)

#### Days 3-4: Fly to Iwokrama

Fly to the interior to **Iwokrama River Lodge** for 2 nights. Take a birding boat trip on the Essequibo river, hike up Turtle mountain,

search for Amerindian petroglyphs and visit a local village. (B, L, D)

#### Days 5-6: Atta

Search for birds and elusive jaguars and take wildlife walks on the lwokrama Canopy Walkway. 2-night stay at Atta Rainforest Lodge. (B, L, D)

#### Days 7-8: Surama

Stay at **Surama Eco Lodge** in an Amerindian village for 2 nights. Explore the surrounding savannah and rivers. (B, L, D)

#### Day 9: Rupununi • Annai

Explore the Pakaraima foothills, the savannah and local villages. Stay at **Rock View Lodge**. (B, L, D)

#### Days 10-11: Karanambu Ranch

Travel by land and river to **Karanambu Ranch** for 2 nights. Learn about wild otter rehabilitation and explore the flooded forest. (B, L, D)

#### **Day 12: Caiman House Field Station**

Search for giant anteaters and learn about

black caimans. Overnight stay. (B, L, D) **Day 13: Georgetown** 

Fly back to Georgetown for a city tour and overnight stay. Enjoy a Guyanese fusion dinner at the Backyard Café. (B, L, D)

Days 14-15: Fly to London via the Caribbean (B) (N)

**Guideline Prices** (incl. flights) Low season from: £5,245 (Sep – Nov) High season from: £5,345 (Jan/Aug)

Tour code: GYE



## Experiences in the Guianas



#### Georgetown Backyard Café, Guyana

This unique cultural experience with charismatic chef Delven Adams starts with a visit to Georgetown's bustling Bourda market to find fresh organic produce and meet local stallholders. Continue to the Backyard Café, the cook's little establishment set up in his own backyard. Relax on an upcycled shipping pallet with a cold drink and watch the chef prepare a delicious lunch over an open fire. Alternatively, lend a hand and learn to cook Guyanese-style.



#### lwokrama rainforest, Guyana

Iwokrama is a living laboratory for sustainable tropical forest management in conjunction with the local Makushi people. A rich variety of flora and fauna including many bird species can be seen during forest hikes, from high up on the Iwokrama Canopy Walkway or on boat rides along the Essequibo river. There is a good chance of spotting a jaguar in its natural environment. Amerindian petroglyphs can be seen at Kurupukari Falls, or hike up Turtle mountain for spectacular views.



#### Maroon villages, Suriname

Get an insight into Maroon culture by staying deep in the rainforests of the Upper Suriname river. We recommend remote **Danpaati**, a rustic jungle lodge that works closely with the local communities. Visit the nearby village and meet the elders, learning about the Maroon's unique culture, lifestyle and West African traditions passed on by their ancestors. In the evening, enjoy a cultural performance of songs and dances by the staff and their families.



#### Visit Kaieteur Falls, Guyana

Fly deep into the remote rainforest-covered interior by light aircraft to experience the mighty Kaieteur Falls, the world's largest single-drop waterfall. Located on the Potaro river, a tributary of the Essequibo, the falls thunder 250 metres into a deep gorge. See swifts dart through the spray or perhaps spot a golden frog or the colourful Guianan cock-of-the-rock. The adventurous can hike in the area and overnight in a basic guesthouse.



#### Rupununi experience, Guyana

Named after the Rupununi river, these vast and remote southwestern savannahs are interspersed with wetlands, river systems and rainforest-covered mountains. Seasonal floods create a rich ecosystem and habitat for tropical freshwater fish, black caiman, giant anteaters and harpy eagles. Karanambu, a former cattle ranch dedicated to conservation and run by the McTurk family, is one of the last refuges for the giant river otter.



#### Catamaran trip to Iles du Salut, French Guiana

These small but beautiful and historically important tropical islands lie just off the coast of Kourou. Famously featured in the novel *Papillon*, they once served as French penal colonies, where many convicts and political prisoners were incarcerated. Take a catamaran day trip to Ile Saint Joseph and Ile Royal to explore the atmospheric and overgrown ruins. Enjoy lunch with views of Devil's Island (inaccessible due to its dangerous coastline).



## Ultimate South America

#### Group tours • Tailor-made travel

South America is vast and the depth of its cultural, historical and natural wonders is extraordinary. A group or private tour taking in several countries offers the opportunity to get some sense of this variety.

Over the following pages you will find contrasting multi-country tours, which may be taken either as part of a group or privately, as well as our suggested epic private journey that visits seven countries with an option to add further destinations. Cox & Kings is also able to arrange tailor-made private travel in some of the continent's more off-thebeaten-track or lesser-known destinations. Please see our website for further multi-country options and itineraries.

## Guyana Suriname ∼ French Guiana Bolivia

#### Small group & private tours

98	A Taste of South America • Group or private
100	Splendours of South America • Group or private
102	A Journey through the Andes • Group or private
104	Grand Tour of South America • Group or private
106	Ultimate South America • Private

The continent of South America is vast and climatically diverse. Generally, it is best to visit the Andean countries, such as Peru and Bolivia, in the dry season between May and October, while Argentina and Chile are at their most pleasant between September and April, particularly in the south. Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and the Galapagos are year-round destinations and Venezuela has a dry season from November to May.

Inspired to venture further afield? Browse our website to discover additional destinations, places to stay and itineraries; or speak to our Latin America experts.



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## A Taste of South America

**Duration** • 15 days & 12 nights **Category** • Superior

#### This group tour features...

- 4- & 5-star accommodation
- Flexible extensions, room & flight upgrades available
- Small group size maximum 26 people
- Direct international flights with British Airways
- Internal flights
- Transfers in air-conditioned vehicles
- Experienced local tour guides in each destination
- 12 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 1 dinner
- Guided sightseeing & entrance fees
- Porterage at airports

#### Weather

#### **Buenos Aires**

	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	s	0	N	D
Α	29	28	26	22	19	15	15	17	19	22	25	28
В	20	19	17	14	10	8	7	8	10	13	15	18
С	107	102	121	96	76	62	62	67	69	111	101	92

#### Cuzco

	J	F	М	Α	M	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	17	17	17	18	18	18	17	18	18	19	19	18
В	4	4	4	3	0	-2	-2	-1	1	3	3	4
C	153	136	120	46	8	2	4	8	23	40	68	116

A: Maximum average temperature (C) B: Minimum average temperature (C) C: Average rainfall (mm)

#### Area map



**Group tour •** From £3,295 (incl. flights) **Private tour •** From £3,695 (incl. flights)



Congress building, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Sample the cultural and scenic highlights of three of the most distinct countries in South America on this superb introductory tour. Explore sophisticated Buenos Aires, its underground secrets and the Argentinian grassland countryside; get a taste of Chile in its buzzing capital city, the winelands and the Pacific coast; then combine historic Lima with the Inca heritage of the Peruvian Andes.

#### C&K Signature experiences

- Visit underground tunnels in old San Telmo & a historic estancia
- A vineyard tour & wine tasting in Casablanca Valley
- A glimpse into Chile's dictatorship past at the Human Rights Museum
- Train journey & overnight at Machu Picchu

#### Day 1: Fly to Buenos Aires, Argentina

Fly from London (regional connections available) to Buenos Aires with British Airways. (N)

#### Day 2: Buenos Aires

Morning arrival. Transfer to the **Alvear Art Hotel** for 3 nights. Afternoon at leisure. (N)

#### **Day 3: Buenos Aires**

In the morning visit the elegant Recoleta and colourful La Boca districts, and travel back in time at the amazing underground tunnels of El Zanjon. Optional evening dinner and tango show. (B)

#### Day 4: The Pampas

Full-day excursion into the Pampas. Visit the

town of San Antonio de Areco, birthplace of the *gaucho*'s tradition, and its small museum, and relax at a traditional *estancia* (ranch) over a typical *asado* (barbecue lunch). (B, L)

#### Day 5: Fly to Santiago, Chile • Valparaíso

Fly to Santiago and transfer to Valparaíso for a one-night stay at **Hotel Acontraluz** (upgrade to a sea-view room from £45), in the heart of historic Cerro Alegre hill. (B)

#### Day 6: Winelands • Santiago

Morning tour of the colourful port city with its distinctive funicular elevators and visit the eccentric house of Nobel prize-winning poet Pablo Neruda. Continue to the Casablanca Valley for a vineyard tour and wine tasting, and onto Santiago for 2 nights at the Hotel Plaza San Francisco. (B, L)

#### Day 7: Santiago

Half-day city tour of the historic centre and the Human Rights Museum to reflect on Chile's past. Optional afternoon visit to the Sky Costanera viewing platform. (B)

#### Days 8-9: Fly to Lima, Peru

Fly to Lima and transfer to **Casa Andina Premium Miraflores** for 2 nights. Morning tour of the highlights of this historic capital including Casa Aliaga, the oldest colonial mansion in the city. (B)

#### Day 10: Fly to Cuzco • Sacred Valley

Fly to Cuzco in the Andes. Transfer to the Sacred Valley, visiting the indigenous village of Chinchero and the impressive Ollantaytambo Inca fortress en route. Overnight stay at Casa Andina Premium Sacred Valley. (B)

#### Day 11: Machu Picchu

Board the *Vistadome* train to Machu Picchu and take a guided tour of the magnificent ruined citadel. Stay at **El Mapi Hotel** for 1 night. (B, L, D)

#### Day 12: To Cuzco

Morning at leisure or further explore Machu Picchu (purchase ticket at time of booking). Afternoon train to Cuzco for a 2-night stay at Casa Andina Premium Cuzco. (B)

#### Day 13: Cuzco

Half-day tour of the ancient capital of the Inca empire. Optional afternoon visit to nearby Sacsayhuaman fortress. (B)

#### Days 14-15: Fly to London via Lima

Fly to London via Lima with British Airways, arriving the next day. (B) (N)

**Meal basis:** As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.



Cuzco, Peru

#### **Extensions**

#### Iguazú Falls + tour

4 days & 2 nights from £695 Tour code: TLAIGU

Start your journey with a visit to the spectacular Iguazú Falls, on the border between Brazil and Argentina. Explore both national parks and relax surrounded by tropical jungle. Please note that national park fees at Iguazú / Iguaçu are not included.

#### Day 1: Fly to Iguaçu via São Paulo

Fly overnight to Iguaçu via São Paulo with British Airways. (N)

#### Days 2-3: Iguaçu / Iguazú

Midday arrival. Visit the Brazilian side of the falls and cross into Argentina for a 2-night stay at **Mercure Iguazú Hotel**. Following day take a half-day tour to the Argentinian side of the cataracts for a different perspective. (B)

#### Day 4: Fly to Buenos Aires

Fly to Buenos Aires to join the rest of the group. (B)

#### Tour + Lake Titicaca

4 days & 2 nights from £495 Tour code: TLATIC

Extend your tour with a scenic train journey across the Andes (see page 18) and stay on the shores of legendary Lake Titicaca.

#### Day 14: To Lake Titicaca

Take a 10-hour journey on the stylish *Titicaca* train across the altiplano to Puno on Lake Titicaca. Stay 2 nights at the **Hotel Libertador** overlooking the lake. (B, L)

#### Day 15: Lake Titicaca

Full-day excursion by boat to the floating Uros reed islands and Taquile island. (B, L)

Days 16-17: Fly to London via Lima

Transfer to Juliaca airport and fly to London, via Lima with British Airways. (B) (N)

#### Important information

**Locally escorted tour:** This tour is led in each destination en route by a local tour guide.

**Itinerary:** March and November departures will return from Lima via Madrid.

**Private & tailor-made travel:** This itinerary can be taken privately on a date that suits you or it can be tailored to your exact requirements. Guideline prices for private travel are based on different hotels in Rio and Iguazú. Please call 020 3627 3097 or visit CoxandKings.co.uk for further details.

#### **Guideline prices for 2020-21**

#### Group tour

Low season from £3,295 Guide price months: Nov

High season from £3,395 Guide price months: Apr – Oct

Single supplement from £745

#### Private travel

Low season from £3,695 Guide price months: Nov

High season from £3,795 Guide price months: Apr – Oct

Single supplement on request

The guideline high season prices may be significantly lower than the peak season prices (21 Dec - 02 Jan)

#### **British Airways flight upgrades**

World Traveller Plus from £595 return Club World from £2,495 return

#### Regional air connections

Prices on request. To/from Aberdeen, Belfast, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Manchester or Newcastle.

The guideline tour prices are all per person in UK pounds, based on two people sharing a twin / double room. For current prices for all departure dates, including special offers when applicable, please call 020 3627 3097 or visit CoxandKings.co.uk. All prices are subject to availability.

#### Departure dates for 2020-21

Out (Sat)Rtn (Sat)14 Mar 2028 Mar 2018 Apr 2002 May 20

**Out (Sat)** Rtn (Sat) 23 May 20 06 Jun 20 05 Sep 20 19 Sep 20 Out (Sat) Rtn (Sat) 10 Oct 20 24 Oct 20 07 Nov 20 21 Nov 20 Out (Sat)Rtn (Sat)20 Mar 2103 Apr 2117 Apr 2101 May 21

Tour code: TLA

## Splendours of South America

**Duration** • 18 days & 15 nights **Category** • Superior

#### This group tour features...

- 4- & 5-star accommodation
- Flexible extensions, room & flight upgrades available
- Average group size 14 people (max 26)
- Direct international flights with British Airways
- Internal flights
- Transfers in air-conditioned vehicles
- Experienced local tour guides in each destination
- 15 breakfasts, 1 lunch
- Guided sightseeing & entrance fees\*
- Porterage at airports

#### Weather

#### El Calafate

	J	F	М	Α	M	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	16	15	13	10	5	3	2	4	8	11	13	15
В	5	5	3	1	-2	-4	-5	-3	-2	0	3	4
С	42	40	51	50	48	47	46	44	39	36	36	42

A: Maximum average temperature (C) B: Minimum average temperature (C) C: Average rainfall (mm)

#### Area map



**Group tour •** From £3,995 (incl. flights) **Private tour •** From £4,595 (incl. flights)



Iguaçu Falls, Brazil

Explore the celebrated highlights of Brazil, Chile and Argentina, combining spectacular natural wonders with some of South America's most exciting cities. Start in the foothills of the Andes, discover the extraordinary landscapes of Patagonia and finish in true style on a world-famous beach in Rio.

#### C&K Signature experiences

- Privileged luxury stay close to the dramatic Iguaçu Falls
- Room with views in Torres del Paine
- Discover Patagonia's celebrated sights on both sides of the Andes
- Soak up the Latin culture of Buenos Aires & vibrant Rio de Janeiro
- Legendary hotel experience on Copacabana beach

#### Day 1: Fly to Santiago, Chile

Fly from London (regional connections available) to Santiago with British Airways. (N)

#### Day 2: Santiago

Arrive and transfer to the **Hotel Plaza San Francisco** for a 2-night stay. Optional afternoon visit to a nearby winery. (N)

#### Day 3: Santiago

Morning city tour including the historic centre, San Cristobal hill and the Museum of Pre-Columbian Art. Afternoon at leisure. (B)

#### Day 4: Fly to Punta Arenas • Patagonia

Fly to Punta Arenas for a short tour of the Strait of Magellan. Continue through Patagonian wilderness to Puerto Natales. Overnight at **Hotel Costaustralis** (fjord-view room). (B)

#### Day 5: Torres del Paine

Full-day excursion through the Torres del Paine National Park to see peaks, glacier lakes and Patagonian wildlife. Stay 2 nights at **Hotel Lago Grey** (Superior room with glacier view). (B, L)

#### Day 6: Torres del Paine

Morning walk in the national park, close to Lake Sarmiento and Amarga lagoon. Afternoon at leisure or optional excursions in the park. (B)

#### Day 7: El Calafate, Argentina

Cross the border to El Calafate in Argentina and stay 2 nights at the **Hotel Kosten Aike**. (B)

#### Day 8: Perito Moreno glacier

Full-day tour of Perito Moreno glacier. Optional boat trip in front of the gigantic glacier wall. (B)

#### Day 9: Fly to Buenos Aires

Fly to Buenos Aires and transfer to the **Alvear Art Hotel** for 3 nights. (B)

#### **Day 10: Buenos Aires**

Half-day tour of the elegant capital city and the colourful La Boca district. (B)

#### **Day 11: Buenos Aires**

At leisure or optional excursion to an estancia in the Pampas or Colonia in Uruguay. (B)

#### Days 12-13: Fly to Iguazú / Iguaçu†

Fly to Iguazú Falls and transfer to Brazil for a 2-night stay at the luxurious **Belmond Hotel das Cataratas** within the park (upgrade to a deluxe falls-view room from £275). Guided visit to the Argentinian side of these striking falls and time at leisure to enjoy the panoramic views from your hotel. The cascades can be experienced while the park is closed to other visitors. (B)

#### Day 14: Fly to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Fly to Rio, set on a natural bay and surrounded by mountains. Stay at the sumptuous **Belmond Copacabana Palace** (Superior partial oceanview room) on the iconic beach for 3 nights<sup>†</sup>. Upgrade to deluxe ocean front room from £110. (B)

#### Days 15-16: Rio de Janeiro

Full-day city tour including Corcovado, the statue of Christ the Redeemer and a cable car ride up Sugar Loaf mountain. Day 16 at leisure or optional excursions including a visit to the old centre of Rio or a 4x4 tour to Tijuca forest. (B)

#### Days 17-18: Fly to London

Overnight flight to London with British Airways. Please enquire for supplements for day room if required. Arrive in London the next day. (B) (N)



Torres del Paine National Park, Chile

Tour code: SPG

Meal basis: As per itinerary - B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

#### **Extensions**

#### Atacama Desert + tour

5 days & 3 nights from £1,095 Tour code: SPGATA

Travel to the far north of Chile and the small oasis town of San Pedro de Atacama to explore the fascinating landscape of the Atacama desert, the driest place on Earth.

#### Days 1-2: Fly to Santiago

Fly to Santiago with British Airways. On arrival take a flight to Calama and transfer to San Pedro de Atacama for 3 nights at the Altiplanico Hotel. (N)

#### Days 3-4: Atacama

Visit the Atacama salt flat and the Andean desert village of Toconao and in the afternoon tour the Valley of the Moon. Time at leisure to explore the town or take optional excursions. (B)

#### Day 5: Fly to Santiago

Fly to Santiago to join the rest of the group. (B)

#### Tour + Búzios

5 Days & 3 Nights from £595 Tour code: SPGBUZ

The beach resort of Búzios provides a relaxing stay at the end of your journey. Please refer to pages 84 and 87 for further details.

#### Tour + Amazon

5 days & 3 nights from £845 Tour code: SPGAMZ

An immense network of rivers and forest, the Amazon is home to the greatest number of living plants and animal species in the world.

Fly to Manaus and stay at the Amazon Ecopark Lodge, taking local excursions including jungle walks, alligator spotting and a boat trip to see the Meeting of the Waters.

#### **Important information**

Locally escorted tour: This tour is led in each destination en route by a local tour guide.

\* Park Fees: Entry fees at the Iguazú & Iguaçu National Parks are not included.

<sup>†</sup>Rio de Janeiro: The 13 February 2020 and 28 January 2021 departures include 3 days

& 2 nights in Rio due to Champion's Parade/ Carnival. If you would like to extend your stay to include the parades, please enquire about prices.

**Itinerary:** This tour joins the *Wonders of the* New World tour from Buenos Aires to Rio de laneiro.

Private & tailor-made travel: This itinerary can be taken privately on a date that suits you or it can be tailored to your exact requirements. Guideline prices for private travel are based on different hotels in Rio and Iguazú. Please call 020 3627 3097 or visit CoxandKings.co.uk for further details.

#### **Guideline prices for 2020-21**

Low season from £3,995 Guide price months: Late Nov

High season from £4,095 Guide price months: Jan - Mar, Oct - Nov

Single supplement from £1,295

#### **Private travel**

Low season from £4,595 Guide price months: Apr

High season from £4,695 Guide price months: Jan - Mar, Nov

Single supplement on request.

The guideline high season prices may be significantly lower than the peak season prices (Carnival & New Year)

#### **British Airways flight upgrades** World Traveller Plus from £545 return

Club World from £2,295 return

#### Regional air connections

Prices on request. To/from Aberdeen, Belfast, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Manchester or Newcastle.

The guideline tour prices are all per person in UK pounds, based on two people sharing a twin / double room. For current prices for all departure dates, including special offers when applicable, please call 020 3627 3097 or visit CoxandKings.co.uk. All prices are subject to availability.

#### Departure dates for 2020-21

Out (Thu) Rtn (Sun) 30 Jan 20 16 Feb 20 <sup>†</sup> 13 Feb 20 29 Feb 20 05 Mar 20 22 Mar 20

Out (Thu) Rtn (Sun) 15 Oct 20 01 Nov 20 29 Oct 20 15 Nov 20 12 Nov 20 29 Nov 20

Out (Thu) Rtn (Sun) 26 Nov 20 13 Dec 20 21 Jan 21 07 Feb 21 <sup>†</sup>28 Jan 21 13 Feb 21

Out (Thu) Rtn (Sun) 11 Feb 21 28 Feb 21 25 Feb 21 14 Mar 21 11 Mar 21 28 Mar 21

## A Journey through the Andes

**Duration** • 19 days & 16 nights **Category** • Standard

**Private tour •** From £4,695 (incl. flights)

**Group tour •** From £3,995 (incl. flights)

#### This group tour features...

- ❖ 3- & 4-star accommodation
- Direct international flights with British Airways
- Internal flights
- Flexible extensions & flight upgrades available
- Transfers in air-conditioned vehicles
- Experienced local tour guides in each destination
- Average group size 10 people (max 26)
- 16 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 3 dinners
- Guided sightseeing & entrance fees
- Porterage at airports



Machu Picchu, Peru

Travel through the heart of the Andes, visiting Chile, Bolivia and Peru. Discover dramatic highland scenery and traditional cultures including the stunning Atacama desert and the otherworldly Uyuni salt flats in Bolivia; Lake Titicaca, legendary birthplace of the Incas; and the ancient sites of the Sacred Valley and Machu Picchu.

#### Weather

Uyuni

	J	F	М	Α	M	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	17	16	16	17	15	14	13	15	16	17	18	17
В	4	4	3	1	-3	-6	-6	-5	-2	1	2	4
C	42	37	27	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	10	22

A: Maximum average temperature (C) B: Minimum average temperature (C) C: Average rainfall (mm)

#### Area map



#### C&K Signature experiences

- 4x4 travel through remote & extraordinary landscapes
- Visit a traditional Atacameña farm
- Stay in a salt hotel in the Salar de Uyuni
- Hydrofoil cruise across Lake Titicaca & overnight at Machu Picchu

#### Day 1: Fly to Santiago, Chile

Fly from London (regional connections available) to Santiago with British Airways. (N)

#### Day 2: Santiago

Morning arrival. Visit the Sky Costanera viewing platform for panoramic views of the city and the Andes. Transfer to the **Hotel NH Santiago** or similar for 2 nights. Afternoon at leisure. (N)

#### Day 3: Santiago

Morning tour of the city including the cathedral, the main square and Santa Lucia

hill. Afternoon at leisure or optional excursions. (B)

#### Day 4: Fly to Calama • San Pedro de Atacama

Early morning flight to Calama and transfer to San Pedro de Atacama for a 2-night stay at **Hotel Diego de Almagro**. Afternoon excursion to see the sun set over the Valley of the Moon. (B)

#### Day 5: Atacama desert

Explore the spectacular desert landscapes on a full-day excursion, including the Atacama salt flats, where pink flamingoes may be seen, and the little village of Toconao, built of white volcanic stone. A visit will also be made to an Atacameña farm to learn about daily life and traditions. (B)

#### Day 6: Salar de Uyuni, Bolivia

A long full-day 4x4 drive to Uyuni, via a striking landscape of snow-capped peaks, volcanoes, geysers and mineral-rich lakes, such as the emerald-green Laguna Verde and red Laguna Colorado, home to rare flamingoes. Stay for 2 nights on the edge of the salt flat at Luna Salada, an extraordinary hotel constructed using blocks of salt. (B, L, D)

#### Day 7: Salar de Uyuni

A full-day 4x4 tour exploring the world's largest salt flat and its stunning scenery. Visit the salt museum in Colchani, Ojos de Agua and Inka Wasi island, located in the heart of the salar and covered in giant cacti. After lunch, discover the ancient Coquesa mummies on the slopes of the Tunupa volcano. (B, L, D)

#### Days 8-9: Fly to La Paz

Transfer to Uyuni and fly to La Paz, a bustling city with a dramatic setting. Stay for 2 nights at **Hotel Presidente**. The following morning take a city tour, including the colonial centre, the witch doctors' market and a cable car ride for bird's-eye views. Afternoon at leisure. (B)

#### Day 10: Lake Titicaca • Puno, Peru

Transfer by road to the shores of Lake Titicaca. Discover the cultural heritage of the Aymara people at the Andean Roots Eco Village and see how reed boats are constructed. Take a hydrofoil cruise across the lake to Copacabana, stopping at the sacred Sun & Moon islands to visit the Inca staircase and the Sun Virgins' Temple. In the afternoon, continue by road to Puno and stay at the José Antonio Hotel. (B. L)

#### Days 11-12: Fly to Cuzco • Sacred Valley

Fly to Cuzco and transfer to the Sacred Valley for a stay of 2 nights at the **Hatun Valley** hotel. The following morning visit the impressive Inca



Salar de Uyuni, Bolivia

Tour code: JOA

fortress of Ollantaytambo and the indigenous market town of Pisac. Afternoon at leisure. (B)

#### Day 13: Machu Picchu

Travel by train to Machu Picchu for a guided exploration of the remarkable Inca ruins. Overnight stay at **El Mapi Hotel**. (B, L, D)

#### Days 14-15: Cuzco

Morning at leisure with the option to revisit the ruins (purchase ticket at time of booking). Afternoon train back to Cuzco. Stay 2 nights at Los Portales Hotel. Morning tour of Cuzco including the San Blas district to explore its sites and beautiful colonial architecture. Afternoon at leisure. (B)

#### Days 16-17: Fly to Lima

Morning at leisure. Fly to Lima for a 2-night stay at the **José Antonio Hotel**. The following day take a morning tour of colonial and modern Lima, including the historical centre and Huaca Pucllana. (B)

#### Days 18-19: Fly to London

Day at leisure or optional excursion to Pachacamac archaeological site and Larco Herrera Museum. This evening fly to London with British Airways, arriving the next day. (B) (N)

**Meal basis:** As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

#### **Extensions**

#### Valparaíso + tour

4 days & 2 nights from £345 Tour code: JOAVAL

Spend 2 nights in the historic and colourful port city of Valparaíso in Chile before the start of the tour. Explore the steep hills, funicular elevators, twisting cobbled streets and brightly

painted houses of this Unesco world heritage town, soaking up the bohemian atmosphere and faded grandeur of yesteryear.

#### Tour + Paracas

4 days & 3 nights from £395 Tour code: JOAPAR

Extend your stay on Peru's southern coast at Paracas, a desert peninsula located 3 hours' drive south of Lima. Enjoy the sunny climate or take optional excursions to discover the Ballestas islands' wildlife or the mysterious Nazca Lines.

For more suggested extensions in Peru and beyond, turn to page 26.

#### **Important information**

**Locally escorted tour:** This tour is led in each destination en route by a local tour guide.

**Itinerary:** This tour includes some long drives through the Andean high plateau and along unpaved road surfaces around the Uyuni salt flats

**Private & tailor-made travel:** This itinerary can be taken privately on a date that suits you, for which guideline prices are shown. Alternatively, it can be tailored to your exact requirements. Please call 020 3627 3097 or visit CoxandKings.co.uk/make-an-enquiry.

#### **Guideline prices for 2020-21**

#### Group tour

Low season from £3,995 Guide price months: Oct

High season from £4,095 Guide price months: Apr – Sep

Single supplement from £645

#### Private travel

Low season from £4,695 Guide price months: Mar

High season from £4,795 Guide price months: Apr – Oct

Single supplement on request

The guideline high season prices may be significantly lower than the peak season prices (21 Dec – 06 Jan)

#### **British Airways flight upgrades**

World Traveller Plus from £525 return Club World from £2,295 return

#### **Regional air connections**

Prices on request. To/from Aberdeen, Belfast, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Manchester or Newcastle.

The guideline tour prices are all per person in UK pounds, based on two people sharing a twin / double room. For current prices for all departure dates, including special offers when applicable, please call 020 3627 3097 or visit CoxandKings.co.uk. All prices are subject to availability.

#### Departure dates for 2020-21

Rtn (Mon) Out (Thu) Out (Thu) Out (Thu) Rtn (Mon) Rtn (Mon) 19 Mar 20 06 Apr 20 03 Sep 20 21 Sep 20 15 Apr 21 03 May 21 23 Apr 20 11 May 20 08 Oct 20 26 Oct 20

## Grand Tour of South America

**Duration** • 18 days & 16 nights **Category** • Superior

**Group tour •** From £3,995 (incl. flights) **Private tour •** From £4,695 (incl. flights)

#### This group tour features...

- ❖ 4- & 5-star accommodation
- Direct international flights with British Airways
- Internal flights
- Flexible extensions, room & flight upgrades available
- Average group size 16 people (max 26)
- Transfers in air-conditioned vehicles
- Experienced local tour guides in each destination
- 16 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 2 dinners
- Guided sightseeing & entrance fees\*
- Porterage at airports and stations
- Easter departures<sup>†</sup>

#### Weather Cuzco

	J	F	М	Α	M	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	17	17	17	18	18	18	17	18	18	19	19	18
В	4	4	4	3	0	-2	-2	-1	1	3	3	4
С	153	136	120	46	8	2	4	8	23	40	68	116

A: Maximum average temperature (C) B: Minimum average temperature (C) C: Average rainfall (mm)

#### Area map





Ipanema beach, Rio de Janeiro

This tour focuses on South America's cultural and natural highlights, revealing the continent's diversity, and passing from high Andean scenery down to the thundering Iguazú Falls. Stop in buzzing cities along the way including Bolivia's capital of La Paz, cosmopolitan Buenos Aires in Argentina and the exotic Brazilian city of Rio de Janeiro.

#### 🕊 C&K Signature experiences

- Coast-to-coast, multi-country experience
- Overnight stays at Machu Picchu & inside Iguaçu National Park
- Luxury sleeper train journey across the altiplano
- Visit the floating islands of Lake Titicaca
   & stay on its shore
- Opulent landmark hotel in Rio de Janeiro

#### Day 1: Fly to Lima, Peru

Fly from London (regional connections available) to Lima with British Airways. Transfer to the Casa Andina Premium Miraflores for 2 nights. (N)

#### Day 2: Lima

Morning tour of Lima, with a stop at the historic Cordano tavern for a local pisco sour. (B)

#### Day 3: Fly to Cuzco • Sacred Valley

Fly to Cuzco, the ancient capital of the Inca empire. Transfer to the Sacred Valley, via the local market in Pisac and Ollantaytambo Inca fortress. Stay at the Casa Andina Premium Sacred Valley for 1 night. (B)

#### Day 4: Machu Picchu

Take the *Vistadome* train to Machu Picchu and explore the spectacular Inca city. Stay at Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo for 1 night. (B, L, D)

#### Day 5: Cuzco

Morning at leisure or further explore Machu Picchu (purchase tickets at time of booking). In the afternoon, return to Cuzco by train and stay 2 nights at the Casa Andina Premium Cuzco. (B)

#### Day 6: Cuzco

Morning tour of Cuzco and San Blas. Afternoon at leisure or optional excursions. (B)

#### Day 7: Luxury train to Puno

Take the *Belmond Andean Explorer* sleeper train across the altiplano (high plain) to Puno on the shores of Lake Titicaca. Enjoy majestic vistas from the stylish lounge car, stop by the archaeological site of Raqchi and watch the sunset at La Raya (the highest point of the route), where the snowcapped Andes tower over deep valleys. Dinner and overnight on board (bunk bed cabin). Upgrade to a twinbedded cabin from £105. (B, L, D)

#### Day 8: Lake Titicaca, Bolivia

Wake up to see sunrise over Lake Titicaca. Travel by road to Huatajata in Bolivia visiting Copacabana and its shrine en route. Discover the cultural exhibition at the Andean Roots Eco Village, see how reed boats are constructed and meet a *Kallawaya*, a spiritual healer. Stay overnight at the **Inca Utama** on the shores of the lake and observe the southern constellations from the hotel's astronomical observatory. (B, L)

#### Day 9: Uros Iruitos • La Paz

After breakfast take a hydrofoil cruise to the Uros Iruitos floating reed islands and visit the Quewaya Sustainable Project. Continue overland to bustling La Paz and take an afternoon tour of the city, including the witches' market and Moon Valley. Overnight at the Hotel Europa. (B)

#### Day 10: Fly to Buenos Aires, Argentina

Fly to Buenos Aires, a city of grand architecture and European influences. Transfer to the **Alvear Art Hotel** for 3 nights. (B)

#### Days 11-12: Buenos Aires

Morning city tour, including the cathedral, La Boca district and the Recoleta cemetery. A day at leisure or take optional excursions. (B)



Machu Picchu, Peru

#### Days 13-14: Fly to Iguazú / Iguaçu

Fly to Iguazú and cross into Brazil for 2 nights at the luxurious **Belmond Hotel das Cataratas** within the park (upgrade to a deluxe falls-view room from £275). Take a half-day tour of the Argentinian side of the falls, including the thundering Devil's Throat, and time at leisure to explore the Brazilian park at your own pace. (B)

#### Day 15: Fly to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Fly to Rio, set among mountains, tropical forests and golden beaches. Transfer to the stylish **Belmond Copacabana Palace** (partial oceanview room) for 2 nights. Upgrade to a deluxe ocean front room from £75. (B)

#### Day 16: Rio de Janeiro

Full-day tour of Rio de Janeiro, including Corcovado and Sugar Loaf mountain. (B)

#### Days 17-18: Fly to London

At leisure or optional excursions (day room use from £85). Evening flight to London with British Airways, arriving the following day. (B) (N)

**Meal basis:** As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

#### **Extensions**

#### Tour + Búzios Beach

5 days & 3 nights from £595 Tour code: GTABUZ

Relax at the end of your tour in the charming beach resort of Búzios, with first-class restaurants, chic shops and numerous sandy beaches and crystal-clear waters.

#### Days 17-19: Búzios

Transfer to Búzios (approximately 2.5 hours) and stay for 3 or 4 nights at **Vila d'Este** (garden room). Upgrade to an ocean front room from £115 or to **Casas Brancas** from £175. At leisure or optional excursions. (B)

#### Days 20-21: Fly to London

Transfer to Rio de Janeiro for an overnight

flight to London with British Airways. (B) (N)

#### Galapagos + tour

8 days & 6 nights from £3,295

Take a pre-tour to the Galapagos islands and discover their fascinating wildlife. The islands are best explored aboard an expedition cruiser and combined with a 2-night stay in Quito. Please refer to pages 48-49 for details.

#### Important information

<sup>†</sup> Easter departures: The 8 April 2020 departure will spend Easter Sunday at Machu Picchu, and 24 March 2021 in Buenos Aires. **Locally escorted tour:** This tour is led in each destination en route by a local tour guide.

**Itinerary:** This tour includes some early morning starts and long days. Departures in March and November will fly to Lima via Madrid.

\* Park fees: Entry fees at Iguazú & Iguaçu National Parks are not included.

**Private & tailor-made travel:** This itinerary can be taken privately on a date that suits you or it can be tailored to your exact requirements. Guideline prices for private travel are based on different hotels in Rio and Iguazú. Please call 020 3627 3097 or visit CoxandKings.co.uk for further details.

#### **Guideline prices for 2020-21**

#### Group tour

Low season from £3,995 Guide price months: Nov

High season from £4,195 Guide price months: Apr – Oct

Single supplement from £1,395

#### Private travel

Low season from £4,695 Guide price months: Mar

High season from £4,795 Guide price months: Apr – Oct

Single supplement on request

The guideline high season prices may be significantly lower than peak season (Carnival, Easter & New Year)

#### **British Airways flight upgrades**

World Traveller Plus from £595 return Club World from £2,095 return

#### Regional air connections

Prices on request. To/from Aberdeen, Belfast, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Manchester or Newcastle.

The guideline tour prices are all per person in UK pounds, based on two people sharing a twin / double room. For current prices for all departure dates, including special offers when applicable, please call 020 3627 3097 or visit CoxandKings.co.uk. All prices are subject to availability.

#### Departure dates for 2020-21

Out (Wed) Rtn (Sat)
18 Mar 20 04 Apr 20
†08 Apr 20 25 Apr 20
29 Apr 20 16 May 20
13 May 20 30 May 20
27 May 20 13 Jun 20

 Out (Wed)
 Rtn (Sal)

 17 Jun 20
 04 Jul 20

 15 Jul 20
 01 Aug 20

 02 Sep 20
 19 Sep 20

 16 Sep 20
 03 Oct 20

 30 Sep 20
 17 Oct 20

Out (Wed) Rtn (Sat)
07 Oct 20 24 Oct 20
14 Oct 20 31 Oct 20
21 Oct 20 07 Nov 20
04 Nov 20 21 Nov 20
† 24 Mar 21 10 Apr 21

 Out (Wed)
 Rtn (Sat)

 14 Apr 21
 01 May 21

 28 Apr 21
 15 May 21

 12 May 21
 29 May 21

 26 May 21
 12 Jun 21

Tour code: GTA

## Ultimate South America

**Duration** • 35 days & 33 nights **Category** • Superior

Private tour • From £8,995 (incl. flights)



#### **Tour overview**

This epic journey travels across seven countries to explore South America's greatest cultural, historic and natural wonders, including a cruise of the Galapagos islands. The varied fiveweek adventure starts in Rio, traverses the width and length of this amazing continent and finishes on the Caribbean coast of Colombia.

#### This private tour features...

- 4- & 5- star accommodation
- Flexible extensions & flight upgrades available
- International & internal flights
- Transfers in air-conditioned vehicles
- Guided sightseeing & entrance fees\*

#### **C&K** Signature experiences

- Vibrant cities of Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires & Santiago
- Magnificent Andean scenery & winelands
- Ancient sites of Peru including Cuzco
   Machu Picchu
- Natural wonders of the Galapagos
   & Iguazú Falls
- Explore colonial Quito & Cartagena

#### Days 1-3: Fly to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Fly to Rio via Madrid with Iberia. Stay at the **Windsor California** (superior room) for 3 nights and visit the city's iconic sites. (B)

#### Days 4-5: Iguazú Falls

Fly to Iguazú for a 2-night stay at **Mercure Iguazú** and explore both sides of the falls. (B)

#### Days 6-7: Buenos Aires, Argentina

Fly to Argentina's vibrant capital and stay for 2 nights at the **Recoleta Grand**. Take a tour or add a day trip to Colonia in Uruguay. (B)

#### Days 8-9: Mendoza

Fly to Mendoza in Argentina's winelands for a 2-night stay at **Huentala**. Explore the city and visit local vineyards for wine tastings. (B)

#### Days 10-11: Santiago, Chile

Fly to Santiago and visit its historic centre. Stay 2 nights at the **Hotel Plaza San Francisco**. Optional visits to a vineyard or Valparaíso. (B)

#### Days 12-13: La Paz, Bolivia

Fly to La Paz, situated at 3,500 metres above sea level. Stay 2 nights at La Casona. Take a city tour and visit the Moon Valley. (B)

#### Day 14: Lake Titicaca

Travel by road to Huatajata and stay overnight

at the **Inca Utama Hotel** on the shores of Lake Titicaca. Discover the cultural heritage of the local Aymara people. (B, L, D)

Devil's Throat, Iguazú Falls

#### Day 15: Puno, Peru

Journey by hydrofoil across the lake with stops en route to visit the sacred Sun and Moon islands. Overnight at the **Libertador**. (B)

#### Days 16-17: Cuzco • Sacred Valley

Fly or take a full-day train journey to Cuzco. Transfer to the Sacred Valley for a 2-night stay. Explore local markets and Inca ruins. (B)

#### Day 18: Machu Picchu

Travel by train to Machu Picchu. Tour the ruins and stay overnight at **El Mapi**. (B, L, D)

#### Days 19-20: Cuzco

Option to revisit the ruins. Afternoon train to Cuzco. Stay 2 nights at Casa Andina Premium Cuzco and explore the ancient Inca capital. (B)

#### Days 21-22: Lima

Fly to Lima for 2 nights at **Casa Andina Premium Miraflores**. Uncover the city's colonial heritage and try Peru's culinary offerings. (B)

#### Day 23: Guayaquil, Ecuador

Fly to the port city of Guayaquil for an overnight stay at **Wyndham Guayaquil**. (B)







Machu Picchu, Peru

#### Days 24-26: The Galapagos

Fly to the Galapagos islands for a 3-night cruise<sup>†</sup>. Take small group excursions to different islands with expert naturalist guides. (B, L, D)

#### Days 27-28: Quito

Fly to the capital Quito and stay 2 nights at **Casona de la Ronda**. Take a city tour and visit the equatorial line monument. (B)

#### Days 29-30: Bogotá, Colombia

Fly to Bogotá for a 2-night stay at **Novotel Parque 93.** Explore the historic centre and visit the Gold and Botero museums. (B)

#### Days 31-33: Cartagena

Fly to Cartagena on the Caribbean coast and end your tour with a 3-night stay at **Ananda**. Explore the beautiful walled city on foot. Take an optional visit to the Rosario Islands. (B)

#### Days 34-35: Fly home via Bogota & Madrid (B)

**Meal basis:** As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

#### **Important Information:**

\* Park fees: Entry fees at the Galapagos and Iguazú / Iguaçu national parks are not included.



Land iguana, Galapagos Islands

† Galapagos cruises: There are a number of small, medium and large boats sailing around the Galapagos islands with cruise durations ranging from 3 to 14 nights. Please refer to pages 48-49 or speak to one of our travel consultants.

Itinerary: It is possible to extend this trip with additional time/explorations within each country, to include Asuncion and/or the Jesuit missions in Paraguay, or to take a ferry from Buenos Aires to Colonia and Montevideo in Uruguay. Accommodation upgrades are available.

#### **Guideline prices for 2020**

Tour code: BAP

Low season from £8,995 Guide price months: Mar

High season from £9,295 Guide price months: May – Sep

The guideline high season prices may be significantly lower than the peak season prices (15 Dec – 2 Jan)





# Antarctica & the South Atlantic

#### Tailor-made travel • Cruises

The isolated continent of Antarctica is the ultimate wilderness where peace, tranquillity and solitude prevail. The spectacular and dramatic scenery is dominated by jagged snowy mountains, dazzling glaciers and giant blue icebergs. Vast colonies of penguins, minke and humpback whales, leopard seals and a host of seabirds give life to the frozen landscape. A voyage to this fascinating place guarantees a truly unforgettable and enriching experience and the changing climate and moving icebergs ensure that no two days are alike.

The South Shetland Islands, which string out along the north-west coast of the Antarctic peninsula, are home to endemic flora, penguins and elephant seals. Further out to sea, less-visited South Georgia offers rugged landscape and superb wildlife viewing while the remote Falkland Islands, some 480km off the coast of South America, can be visited as part of an Antarctic trip or on their own from Chile.

#### **Discover Antarctica & the South Atlantic**

- 110 The Antarctic peninsula & the South Shetlands
- 111 South Georgia & the Falkland Islands
- 112 Antarctic voyages
- 113 Antarctic cruisers

#### Climate

Antarctica's harsh conditions subside during the austral summer months of November to March, when the melting ice allows expedition ships to explore the continent. Wildlife begins to nest and breed, and wildflowers bloom in the Falklands. December and January offer longer daylight hours and opportunities to spot hatching penguins and seals. February and March are the best months for observing whales.

#### Stanley, Falkland Islands

	J		F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
A	13	1	13	12	9	7	5	5	5	7	9	11	12
Е	6		5	5	3	1	1	0	0	1	2	3	5
C	72	5	51	53	53	55	49	46	43	37	38	43	64

Key: A: Maximum average temperature (C) B: Minimum average temperature (C) C: Average rainfall (mm)

Inspired to venture further afield? Browse our website to discover additional destinations, places to stay and itineraries; or speak to our Latin America experts.



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# Discover Antarctica & the South Atlantic



Weddell seal, Antarctica

# Antarctic Peninsula & the South Shetlands

Ultimate wilderness • Research stations

The South Shetlands run parallel to the Antarctic peninsula, and are home to endemic flora, penguins and elephant seals. The White Continent itself boasts majestic snow-covered mountains and huge icebergs often stretching for miles. Visitors can set foot at Neko Harbour or Paradise Bay, explore the former British research base at Port Lockroy and send a rare postcard home. The narrow Lemaire Channel is one of the most beautiful passages in Antarctica while the remote Weddell Sea, famous in the annals of heroic polar expeditions, is another awesome sight, with gigantic tabular icebergs and emperor penguins occasionally spotted on passing ice floes.



Emperor penguins, Antarctica

#### C&K Recommends...

#### Wildlife encounters

Walk among thousands of waddling rockhopper and king penguins in the Falklands and South Georgia, or observe large rookeries of gentoo, Adélie and chinstrap penguins on the Antarctic peninsula. Other spectacular sights include huge varieties of sea birds, pods of orcas, breaching whales and seals basking on the ice.

#### Crossing the Antarctic Circle

Reaching the extreme latitude at the very bottom of the world is an exciting polar adventure available on selected departures. It offers opportunities to visit less-frequented landing sites and enjoy additional time for wildlife viewing.

#### Camping & kayaking

Falling asleep in the crisp fresh air under Antarctic skies against a polar soundtrack of creaking ice is a truly unique experience. Sea kayaking in the Antarctic offers the chance for an up-close encounter with marine wildlife while paddling amid icebergs in serene surroundings.



Southern right whale, Antarctica



Rockhopper penguins, Falkland Islands



King penguins, South Georgia

#### The Falkland Islands

#### Sub-Antarctic species • Turbulent history

This remote archipelago, with an intriguing and turbulent history, has vast open spaces and pristine shorelines that are home to a fascinating array of sub-Antarctic animal and plant life, including elephant seals, rockhopper, king, gentoo, Magellanic and macaroni penguins, and a host of Southern Ocean bird species. Highlights include Sea Lion island, the beautiful sandy beaches and penguin colonies of Pebble island, the small capital of Stanley with brightly painted houses, and Saunders island, with its sizeable colony of black-browed albatrosses.

#### South Georgia

#### Rugged scenery • Abundant birdlife

South Georgia is stirringly beautiful. This is an unforgiving land of ice-clad peaks and immense glaciers. This less-visited rugged island is a wildlife haven, home to blue-eyed shags and the endemic South Georgia pipits, countless nesting albatrosses, giant petrels, Antarctic prions and vast colonies of elephant and fur seals. Thousands of king penguins can be seen waddling on the shores at Salisbury Plain in one of the largest rookeries on the planet. It is also possible to visit abandoned whaling stations and the final resting place of legendary explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton.



Glacier, Antarctica

#### A suggested itinerary...

#### **Falklands Encounters**

8 days & 7 nights from £3,145 Category • Standard

The Falklands can be accessed via scheduled flights from Chile or on a direct charter from RAF Brize Norton. This weeklong journey includes stays in small lodges and travel by land and small aircraft for excellent views.

#### Day 1: Fly to Mount Pleasant

Fly from Santiago in Chile. Overnight in Darwin. (B)

#### Days 2-3: Fly to Bleaker Island

Fly to this privately owned island and take easy walks along the beaches to see sea lions, Magellanic, rockhopper and gentoo penguins, grebes and rare flying steamer ducks. (B, L, D)

#### Days 4-5: Fly to Sea Lion Island

Fly to the southerly Sea Lion Island / Carcass Island. Take self-guided walks to see spectacular scenery and view remarkable wildlife, including endangered striated caracaras, Antarctic skuas and elephant seals. (B, L, D)

#### Days 6-7: Fly to Stanley

Fly to Stanley for 2 nights. Discover the colony of king penguins at Volunteer Point. (B)

#### Day 8: Fly to Santiago

Fly back to Santiago and continue your trip. (B)

Guideline Prices (excl. flights) Low season from: £3,145 (Apr) High season from: £3,245 (Jan - Mar)

Tour code: FIE



111

### **Antarctic Voyages**

Voyages to Antarctica can be arranged between October and March aboard one of our small selection of expedition ships departing from the southern tip of South America. Days at sea are combined with daily excursions on Zodiac boats, shore landings and onboard lectures. Classic polar explorations sail around the Antarctic peninsula and South Shetland Islands while longer expeditions follow in the footsteps of renowned explorers and may include the Falklands and South Georgia.

Fly-cruises include short 2-hour flights from Punta Arenas in Chile to King George Island in the South Shetlands, combined with a classic Antarctic peninsula voyage of 5 or 7 nights. Selected fly-cruise voyages include the Falklands and South Georgia, and offer flights into or out of the Falklands, which saves time getting to the 'White Continent'. Fly-cruises also avoid the unpredictability of the infamous Drake Passage and add an easy polar extension to a South America trip.



Grey-headed albatross, South Georgia



Paradise Bay, Antarctica

#### A suggested itinerary...

#### Classic Antarctica

15 days & 12 nights from £6,295 Category • Superior

Set foot on the ultimate frontier and discover immense icebergs, stunning scenery and an array of wildlife.

Days 1-2: Fly to Buenos Aires via São Paulo

Fly to Buenos Aires via São Paulo for an overnight stay. (B)

Day 3: Fly to Ushuaia

Fly to the world's most southerly city for a 1-night stay. (B)

#### Days 4-6: Cruise to Antarctica

Board your chosen expedition ship and set sail through the Beagle Channel and Drake Passage. A series of lectures about the environment and wildlife are given while at sea. (B, L, D)

Days 7-10: South Shetlands & Antarctica Navigate amid icebergs and calving glaciers and learn about the human history of the area. Daily Zodiac excursions explore bays and channels and provide wildlife-watching opportunities. (B, L, D)

Days 11-12: Cruise to Ushuaia Return via Drake Passage to Ushuaia. (B L, D) Days 13-15: Fly home via São Paulo Disembark and fly to Buenos Aires for a final night before returning home via São Paulo. (B) (N)

**Guideline Prices** (incl. flights) Low season from: £6,295 (Mar) High season from: £7,695 (Dec – Feb)

Tour code: CAT



### **Antarctic Cruisers**



Silver Cloud & Silver Wind Deluxe expedition ships

Combining expedition-style explorations with the highest level of comfort, the iceclass vessels *Silver Cloud* and *Silver Wind* each accommodate up to 240 passengers. The ocean-view staterooms and suites, many with balconies, are elegantly appointed and feature marble bathrooms. Special guest lecturers, butler service, gourmet cuisine, live piano music and complimentary champagne, wine and spirits can be enjoyed on board while the spacious public areas offer spectacular panoramas.



Ocean Diamond Fast & stable super-yacht

This modern and stable super-yacht has an ice-strengthened hull and capacity for 189 passengers. Her high speed enables a saving of up to 12 hours on the Drake Passage crossing. All emissions are offset, making her voyages carbon neutral – a first for polar travel. Bright and smart cabins all have exterior views while many suites feature private balconies. The elevated observation lounge is a superb vantage point and there is a heated pool, wellness programme and a resident photography instructor.



**Greg Mortimer**Cutting-edge marine design

Revolutionising small ship expedition cruising, the new *Greg Mortimer* features a tapering, ice-strengthened X-Bow® hull for smoother and faster sailings, lower fuel consumption and reduced emissions. 80 stylish outside staterooms and suites, the majority featuring picture windows and balconies, accommodate a maximum of 120 guests. Dedicated observation decks and ample outdoor viewing areas, allow guests closer to nature while sea-level Zodiac and activity loading platforms facilitate shore excursions.



**G Expedition**Excellent value & relaxed ambience

The *G Expedition* is stable and spacious yet small enough to offer an up-close polar expedition cruising experience with a great team of skilled crew and expert polar guides. The ship accommodates up to 134 passengers in comfortable cabins with exterior portholes or windows. Large public areas include 360-degree observation decks built especially for wildlife viewing. There is a spacious dining room, lounge, gym, sauna and a library. No single supplements apply for those willing to share a cabin.



Hebridean Sky & Island Sky Superior comfort & service

These small ice-strengthened expedition vessels benefit from advanced stabilisation systems and each accommodates up to 110 guests in elegant ocean-view suites with a sitting area. Top level suites have private balconies and butler service. The spacious public areas include observation decks for spotting wildlife, a library, club room, bar and a lounge with live piano and guitar music. The onboard menu mixes buffet and a la carte dishes with complimentary wine served at dinner. Fly-cruise voyages are also available.



Ocean Nova & Magellan Explorer Small ships & fly-cruise voyages

Skip the Drake Passage and combine a flight from Punta Arenas in Chile to King George Island in the South Shetlands (or vice versa) with a peninsula cruise. The stylish new Magellan Explorer, and the modern, and comfortable Ocean Nova are two of the smallest Antarctic expedition ships, carrying up to 73 passengers each. Both offer outside facing cabins, most with private balconies on the Magellan Explorer, as well as dedicated single berths, and glass observation lounges with forward-facing outside decks.





# Cuba

# Group tours • Tailor-made travel



Cuba offers colourful heritage, intriguing history, a lush interior and glorious beaches, as well as direct Virgin Atlantic flights from London and good connections with other Latin American countries.

Classic American cars, rum and cigars, intoxicating Cuban music, crumbling colonial buildings and Che Guevara murals all add to the charm and character of this special destination. Private homes, some retaining their original furniture and colonial artwork, open their doors as family-run *paladar* restaurants or *casas particulares* and provide a memorable and unique opportunity to experience the local culture.

#### **Discover Cuba**

- 116 The realities of travel in Cuba & Havana
- 117 Viñales valley, Trinidad & surrounds, Cienfuegos & the south coast
- 118 Santiago & the east, Cuba's coast & cays
- 119 Experiences in Cuba

#### Small group & private tours

120 Splendours of Cuba • Group or private

#### Climate

Havana is representative of most of the low-lying regions of Cuba, which include the most popular tourist destinations. The city has an average temperature in the mid-twenties and it can be wet between June and October, which is hurricane season.

#### Havana

	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	s	0	N	D
Α	26	26	28	29	30	31	32	32	31	30	28	27
В	17	17	19	20	22	23	23	23	23	22	20	18
C	68	54	50	63	130	194	149	157	174	164	75	55

#### Cayo Santa Maria

		J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D	
/	A	27	27	28	30	31	32	32	32	32	30	29	27	
E	В	18	18	19	20	22	23	23	23	23	23	21	19	
(	c	39	36	44	70	171	186	114	133	176	190	82	39	

Key: A: Maximum average temperature (C) B: Minimum average temperature (C) C: Average rainfall (mm)

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# Discover Cuba

#### The Realities of Travel in Cuba:

Cuba is full of history, striking architecture, natural beauty and warm people but it is important to know that it is no ordinary Caribbean island and has its own unique charm. The tourist infrastructure in Cuba remains less developed than in most Latin American countries, which may result in erratic standards of service, outdated or worn hotel facilities, road journeys that can take longer than anticipated and limited dining options.

In addition, the country is currently undergoing a swift transformation and experiencing unprecedented levels of demand. With many people keen to visit before its essential character changes, the tourist infrastructure is overstretched and the process of booking hotel arrangements is unusually difficult and completely distinct from other destinations that we offer. The levels of interest, combined with baffling government red tape, may lead to last-minute itinerary and accommodation changes that are completely out of our control. Cox & Kings prides itself on guaranteeing a certain level of service; however, this may not be possible in Cuba for all of the aforementioned reasons.

We believe that these difficulties are more than compensated for by Cuba's unique culture and history but we urge patience and an open mind when planning and embarking on a trip to Cuba. It is an extremely exciting time to visit the island and those with a flexible approach will find a highly rewarding and fascinating country to explore.



#### Havana

#### Mysterious time-warp city • Faded grandeur

A former port of call for ships to the New World, Havana is built on a sweeping bay. The old city, *Havana Vieja*, a Unesco world heritage site, is currently being restored to its former glory with beautiful baroque churches, palaces and convents lining its cobbled streets and squares. The state of decay of some of the colonial buildings only adds to the charm of this enigmatic city. Soak up the atmosphere strolling along the streets, visit one of many museums in converted colonial mansions, dance to salsa and rumba or just relax with a mojito on your hotel's rooftop terrace.



El Capitolio, Havana



Trinidad



Viñales valley

#### Trinidad & Surrounds

Beautiful colonial town • Valley of the Sugar Mills • Che Guevara's memorial

Colonial Trinidad, a Unesco world heritage site, has pastel-coloured buildings and serene cobbled streets that seem frozen in time. Visit the Cantero Museum, an old merchant's home, and the local Casa de la Musica. Not far from town there are fine stretches of beach, ruins of the former sugar plantations and the verdant slopes of the Escambray mountains. A trip to Trinidad is often combined with a stop at French-influenced Cienfuegos and historic Santa Clara, site of the Che Guevara memorial.

#### Cienfuegos & the South Coast

Colonial port & scenic countryside • Bay of Pigs

Cienfuegos, known as the 'Pearl of the South', was founded by French settlers from Louisiana in 1819 and is located on a beautiful bay on the southern coast of Cuba, some 250km east of Havana. One of the chief seaports of Cuba, it is a centre for the sugar trade and is surrounded by one of the most picturesque and fertile regions in the country. Nearby is Playa Giron, nestled on the infamous Bay of Pigs, where the failed CIA invasion took place. Peninsula Zapata National park, home to plenty of wildlife, is known for its birdwatching opportunities.

#### The Viñales Valley

Peculiar limestone outcrops ullet Traditional rural life eta tobacco plantations

Viñales' fascinating landscape consists of fertile valleys dotted with palm trees and peculiar mogote hills, the rounded limestone outcrops of the Sierra de los Organos. There are countless caves and green plantations where tobacco growing has remained unchanged for several centuries. Viñales can be visited on a day trip from Havana but it is best to stay a night or two. There is also the nearby Sierra del Rosario Biosphere Reserve, where the eco resort of Las Terrazas offers another authentic glimpse into Cuba's rural life.



Palacio de Valle, Cienfuegos

#### A suggested itinerary...

#### **Spirit of Cuba**

9 days & 7 nights from £1,945 Category • Standard or Superior

Discover Havana's historic splendour and Trinidad's wonderfully preserved colonial centre while staying in the heart of these two beautiful cities.

#### Days 1-3: Fly to Havana

Fly to Havana and stay 3 nights at a casa particular or boutique hotel. Explore old Havana, a cigar factory and the rum museum, and travel in a classic 1950s car. Optional Viñales valley tour and Buena Vista Social

Club performance. (B)

Days 4-6: Trinidad

Tour the French-influenced port of Cienfuegos and continue to colonial Trinidad for 3 nights at a *casa particular* or the **Iberostar Grand Hotel**. Enjoy time at leisure to explore the city's narrow cobbled streets and visit the Valley of the Sugar Mills. (B)

Days 7-9: Havana • Fly home

Return to Havana, visiting the historic Santa Clara and Che Guevara's museum en route. Stay overnight before flying home. (B)

**Extensions:** It is possible to finish your journey on the soft sandy beaches of Cayo Santa Maria.

Casas Guideline Prices (incl. flights) Low season from: £1,945 (May – Jun) High season from: £2,085 (Jan – Mar)

**Superior Guideline Prices** (incl. flights) Low season from: £2,495 (May – Jun) High season from: £2,895 (Jan – Mar)

Tour code: SCU / SCX





Castillo del Morro, Santiago de Cuba



Cayo Santa Maria

#### Santiago & the East

#### Revolutionary past • Lush mountains & forests

Considered the soul of the country, the eastern part of Cuba is dominated by verdant mountains and is brimming with historic sites. Santiago de Cuba, the island's first capital in the foothills of the Sierra Maestra mountains, has a colonial heritage and splendid fortifications. It is regarded as the cradle of the Cuban revolution. The city has an Afro-Caribbean flavour and is well known for its Cuban music. The pine forests and waterfalls of Mayari are situated inland, while to the very east is the sleepy colonial town of Baracoa, which is Cuba's oldest settlement.



The M/Y Voyager

#### Cuba's Coast & Cays

#### Superb beaches & calm seas • Relaxing end of a holiday

Cuba's long white swathes of sand offer excellent opportunities to relax. The northern coast is dotted with numerous small islands and cays, some connected to the mainland by long causeways. Varadero, easily accessed by road from Havana, is the principle Caribbean resort; however, we recommend the less crowded Cayo Santa Maria, set on a peninsula with crystal-clear waters, picturesque white beaches and offshore reefs teeming with marine life. All first-class hotels operate on an all-inclusive basis, with only the small mangrove-covered cays of Las Brujas and Levisa offering simple non-inclusive options.

#### C&K Recommends...

#### Small ship cruising around Cuba

Explore colonial cities, rural countryside and the beautiful coastline, including the little-known Isla de la Juventud, on a small ship voyage around western Cuba. M/S Panorama, a three-masted motorsailer, and the sleek mega-yacht M/Y Voyager, offer a more intimate experience than conventional cruising and accommodate up to 49 and 71 passengers respectively. Guests can enjoy a relaxed atmosphere in comfortable en suite cabins and spacious public areas on a 7-night cruise between Havana and Cienfuegos or vice versa.

#### A suggested itinerary...

#### A Journey through Cuba

12 days & 10 nights from £2,495 Category • Standard

Traverse the island's verdant interior from west to east for a rewarding glimpse of colonial towns, mountain scenery and everyday Cuban life.

#### Days 1-2: Fly to Havana

Fly to Havana for a 2-night stay and explore old Havana. (B)

#### Days 3-4: Viñales

Travel west to the Viñales valley, a traditional tobacco-growing area with beautiful

limestone formations. Stay for 2 nights. (B, L) **Days 5-7: Santa Clara • Cienfuegos • Trinidad** Drive to Santa Clara for an overnight stay. Visit Che Guevara's museum. Continue to Cienfuegos for a city tour and on to Trinidad. Stay for 2 nights and tour one of the oldest cities in Cuba. (B, L, D)

Day 8: Valley of the Sugar Mills • Camagüey Visit ruined former sugar plantations and drive to Camagüey. Short city tour and overnight stay. (B)

Days 9-10: Bayamo • Santiago de Cuba Full-day drive via Bayamo to Santiago de Cuba, the island's first capital and birthplace of Afro-Cuban culture and music. Stay 2 nights and explore the city and the mountainous surroundings. (B)

#### Days 11-12: Fly home via the US

Fly to London via Miami or option to extend to Esmeralda Beach. An overnight in Miami may be required. (B) (N)

**Guideline Prices** (incl. flights) Low season from: £2,495 (May – Jun) High season from: £2,595 (Jan – Mar)

Tour code: JCU



# Experiences in Cuba



#### Classic American car ride

Classic American cars from the 1940s and 50s roll up and down the streets of Havana. An indisputable testament to the ingenuity of the Cubans, these lovingly maintained vintage vehicles have been running for more than half a century. For a memorable experience, take a ride through the city and along the famous Malecón, Havana's oceanfront promenade that bustles with couples and fishermen.



#### A taste of Revolution

Havana's Museum of the Revolution, housed in former dictator Batista's palace, is a perfect introduction to Cuba's contradictory history. The large Revolution Square, a key venue for political marches, is home to national hero José Martí's memorial and an oversized bronze silhouette of Ernesto 'Che' Guevara. The final resting place of the famous revolutionary in Santa Clara and the museum dedicated to his life are an essential stop on any tour.



#### Casa particular experience

These privately-run bed & breakfast-style guesthouses provide an attractive solution to the shortage of hotels and offer a genuine insight into Cuban life with a chance to interact with local families. The term covers a range of different properties, from old colonial buildings to modern homes, with widely varying standards. Some casas do not have names and are simply referred to by the names of the owners, who are always incredibly hospitable.



#### Music & cigars

A dazzling array of infectious music and iconic cigars are Cuba's most celebrated exports. Admire the expert skills of a cigar roller at a tobacco factory or catch a live performance of the extravagant Cabaret Parisien, the Buena Vista Social Club or the Legendarios del Guajirito in Havana. Local bars play traditional live son or trova music, best enjoyed over a Cuba Libre cocktail.



#### Dine at a paladar

Cuban *paladares* are small family-run restaurants, traditionally located in historic family houses, serving authentic Cuban food that is created with pride. Cuba is not particularly known for fine dining, but the recent relaxation of laws regarding private enterprise has created a thriving private restaurant scene. A *paladar* offers a great opportunity to get away from the usual tourist haunts and experience homecooked meals and a more authentic side of Cuba.



#### Meliá Buenavista beach stay

Meliá Buenavista on Cayo Santa Maria is set on a peninsula away from other hotels and surrounded by coves. This luxury, all-inclusive, adults-only resort has direct access to three beautiful beaches and offers elegantly decorated suites with garden or ocean views. It is perfect for those looking for an exclusive and intimate retreat. Guests can relax by one of the pools or swim in the turquoise waters of the Caribbean; alternatively, unwind with a treatment at the spa.

# Splendours of Cuba

**Duration** • 12 days & 10 nights **Category** • Discovery

#### This group tour features...

- Simple & Good Standard accommodation
- Flexible extensions & flight upgrades available
- Average group size 12 people (max 26)
- Direct international flights with Virgin Atlantic
- Transfers in air-conditioned vehicles
- Experienced local tour manager
- 10 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 3 dinners
- Guided sightseeing & entrance fees
- Porterage at airports
- Extended Oriente departures\*

#### Weather Trinidad

	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	29	29	30	31	32	32	33	33	32	32	30	29
В	19	19	20	21	22	23	23	23	23	23	21	20
C	25	39	39	42	159	204	154	169	208	162	57	24

A: Maximum average temperature (C) B: Minimum average temperature (C) C: Average rainfall (mm)

#### Area map



**Group tour •** From £2,295 (incl. flights) **Private tour •** From £2,695 (incl. flights)



Bass player, Havana

Cuba is changing fast, so now is a great time to visit while its exotic and distinctive style remains. Discover faded colonial grandeur in Havana and Trinidad, delightful rolling countryside, tobacco and coffee plantations, the historical sites of the revolution and the ever-present rhythms of the son and mambo styles of music.

#### C&K Signature experiences

- Take a ride in a classic American car & stroll around old Havana
- Dine at a privately run paladar in Trinidad
- Experience rural life at Las Terrazas community
- Gain an insight into the revolution at Che Guevara's Museum

#### Day 1: Fly to Havana

Fly from London (regional connections available) to Havana with Virgin Atlantic. Transfer to the **Iberostar Parque Central** or similar for 3 nights. (N)

#### Day 2: Havana

Morning walking tour of Old Havana, including the Camera Obscura and a stop at El Floridita, home of the daiquiri cocktail. Afternoon panoramic tour in a classic American car, visiting Revolution Square and a rum museum. (B, L)

#### Day 3: Havana

Day at leisure to stroll along Old Havana's cobbled streets or take optional visits to the Bellas Artes Museum, Hemingway's Museum or the Revolution Museum. (B)

#### Day 4: Las Terrazas

In the morning, drive to Las Terrazas in the western province of Pinar del Rio for a stay of 2 nights. Established as a sustainable environmental and development project, Las Terrazas provides an ideal introduction to Cuba's countryside life and landscapes. Visit the local community and the partially restored 19th-century coffee estate. (B, L, D)

#### Day 5: Viñales

Full-day tour of the beautiful Viñales valley, its tobacco plantations and rounded limestone hills. Visit a cigar factory and take a boat ride through the Indian Cave. (B, L)

#### Day 6: Peninsula de Zapata • Cienfuegos

Travel to Cienfuegos via the Peninsula de Zapata. Take a boat trip through the mangroves and drive past Playa Girón, site of the 1961 invasion. Continue to the small city of Cienfuegos, with its distinct French influence, for 1 night. (B, L, D)

#### Day 7: Cienfuegos • Trinidad

Morning tour of Cienfuegos, known as the 'Pearl of the South', and visit the Cienfuegos botanical gardens. Afternoon transfer to Trinidad for a 3-night stay in a *casa particular* in the heart of the old town. Dine this evening at a privately run paladar. (B, D)

#### Day 8: Trinidad

Morning walking tour of the town, including the Romantic Museum or Cantero Museum and a visit to Casa de la Musica. Founded in 1514, Trinidad contains well-preserved colonial buildings with hardly a trace of 20th-century architecture. Afternoon at leisure or take optional excursions. (B)

#### Day 9: Valley of the Sugar Mills

Morning tour of the Valley of the Sugar Mills, dotted with ruins of large former sugar plantations. Visit the watchtower of the Manaca Iznaga plantation, a reminder of Cuba's slave trade and colonisation. Afternoon at leisure. (B, L)

#### Day 10: Santa Clara • Havana

Morning drive to Santa Clara, the site of the turning point in the Cuban revolution, and see Che Guevara's museum and mausoleum. After lunch, continue to Havana for a final night. Optional evening music performance. (B, L)

#### Days 11-12: Fly to London

Transfer to the airport. Fly to London with Virgin Atlantic and arrive the following day. (B) (N)

**Meal basis:** As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.



Trinidad

#### \*Oriente departures

16 days & 14 nights from £2,795

On selected dates, the tour continues further through the interior to Santiago de Cuba and provides a rare glimpse into eastern Cuba's history, culture and mountain scenery.

#### Day 10: Camagüey

This morning drive to Camagüey (5-6 hours). Short tour of its winding streets built to deter pirate attacks, and stay overnight. (B)

#### Days 11-12: Holguin • Santiago de Cuba

Full-day journey to Santiago de Cuba for a 2-night stay, visiting Holguin and Castro's birthplace at Biran, en route. Explore the island's first capital and birthplace of Afro-Cuban culture including the historical centre, El Morro fortress, and the Gran Piedra and the Sierra Maestra mountains. (B, L)

#### Day 13: Sancti Spíritus

Full-day journey to Sancti Spíritus for an overnight stay visiting El Cobre church, Cuba's most important shrine, and Bayamo en route. (B)

#### Day 14: Santa Clara • Havana

Take a short city tour and continue to historic Santa Clara for a visit and onto Havana for a final night. (B)

#### Days 15-16: To London

Morning at leisure. Fly to London overnight with Virgin Atlantic. (B) (N)

#### **Extension**

#### Tour + Cayo Santa Maria

7 days & 5 nights from £475 Tour code: CUBCSM / CUBCMB

After visiting Santa Clara on day 10, continue to a white sandy cay off Cuba's north coast. Stay for 4 nights at the all-inclusive Meliá Cayo Santa Maria or the first class Meliá Buenavista (upgrade to an ocean-view room from £105 see page 119). Drive back to Havana for a

final night before your flight to London with Virgin Atlantic.

#### Important information

Accommodation: This tour features a combination of simple, good standard and superior hotels, and casas particulares, which are simple, private, bed and breakfast-style accommodations that allow for an authentic insight into the Cuban way of life (see page 119). Cuba combines increasing popularity with very limited good quality hotel options and the properties we use may vary from departure to departure. The specific accommodation

for each departure as well as the exact order of your itinerary will be confirmed in the final travel documents

**Travel in Cuba:** We recommend an extremely flexible approach to booking a holiday and travel in Cuba. Please see page 116 for details. The extended Oriente departures are better suited to the hardier traveller due to longer road drives.

**Private & tailor-made travel:** This itinerary can be taken privately on a date that suits you, for which guideline prices are shown. Alternatively, it can be tailored to your exact requirements. Please call 020 3627 3097 or visit CoxandKings.co.uk/make-an-enquiry

Tour code: CUB / CUO

#### **Guideline prices for 2020-21**

#### Group tour

Low season from £2,295 Guide price months: Nov

High season from £2,345 Guide price months: Jan – Mar

Single supplement from £425

#### **Private travel**

Low season from £2,695 Guide price months: May

High season from £2,795 Guide price months: Jan – Mar

Single supplement on request

The guideline high season prices may be significantly lower than the peak season prices (21 Dec - 06 Jan)

#### Virgin Atlantic flight upgrades

Premium Economy from £695 return Upper Class from £1,795 return

#### Regional air connections

Please speak to your consultant for details

The guideline tour prices are all per person in UK pounds, based on two people sharing a twin / double room. For current prices for all departure dates, including special offers when applicable, please call 020 3627 3097 or visit CoxandKings.co.uk. All prices are subject to availability.

#### Departure dates for 2020-21

Out (Thu) Rtn (Mon) 23 Jan 20 03 Feb 20 06 Feb 20 17 Feb 20 \*09 Feb 20 24 Feb 20 20 Feb 20 02 Mar 20 Out (Thu) Rtn (Mon) \*01 Mar 20 16 Mar 20 05 Mar 20 16 Mar 20 26 Mar 20 06 Apr 20 31 Oct 20 11 Nov 20

Out (Sat) Rtn (Wed) \*14 Nov 20 29 Nov 20 23 Jan 21 03 Feb 21 \*06 Feb 21 21 Feb 21 13 Feb 21 24 Feb 21 Out (Sat) Rtn (Wed) 27 Feb 21 10 Mar 21 06 Mar 21 17 Mar 21 \*13 Mar 21 28 Mar 21 20 Mar 21 31 Mar 21





# Group tours • Tailor-made travel • Rail journeys

Mexico has a vast and varied terrain, rich history and an extraordinary pre-Columbian legacy. It offers stunning Mayan and Aztec ruins and beautifully preserved colonial towns, while the spectacular natural scenery encompasses snow-capped volcanoes, dramatic mountain canyons, desert coastlines, tropical rainforests, waterfalls and beautiful beaches.

The vast urban sprawl of Mexico City contains the country's finest art galleries and museums, alongside superb restaurants and vibrant nightlife. Mexico's Spanish past is best evidenced in the colonial towns and cities in the centre and north of the country, with their many historic buildings and baroque churches. Witness the breathtaking scenery of the Copper Canyon on board one of the most spectacular rail journeys in the world or simply relax by the pristine white sand beaches and turquoise waters of the Mayan Riviera. Accommodation options range from simple to modern and luxurious properties, while carefully restored character hotels offer distinctive places to stay, further enriching the experience.

#### **Discover Mexico**

- 124 Mexico City, Oaxaca & surrounds and Chiapas
- 125 Yucatan peninsula
- 126 Northern colonial towns, Copper Canyon & Baja California
- 127 Experiences in Mexico

#### Small group & private tour

128 Highlights of Mexico • Group or private

#### Places to stay - our suggestions

130 Mexico hotels & haciendas

#### Climate

Mexico City and the central plateau tend to be cooler due to the altitude (2,250 metres). The colourful city of Oaxaca has a temperate sub-tropical climate year-round, with lower humidity from November to February. In the Yucatan peninsula, proximity to the sea dictates the heat and humidity – the inland jungle areas are hot and humid while the coastal areas are cooled by sea breezes. There is a higher chance of rainfall from June to October, which coincides with hurricane season.

#### **Mexico City**

	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	22	24	26	27	27	25	24	24	23	23	23	22
В	4	5	7	9	10	12	11	11	11	9	6	4
C	8	4	11	22	52	108	131	125	109	44	15	6

#### Mayan Riviera

	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	s	0	N	D
Α	28	29	31	32	32	32	32	33	32	31	29	29
В	19	19	20	21	22	23	23	23	23	23	21	19
С	77	57	38	46	109	189	121	146	237	214	107	97

Key: A: Maximum average temperature (C) B: Minimum average temperature (C) C: Average rainfall (mm)

Inspired to venture further afield? Browse our website to discover additional destinations, places to stay and itineraries; or speak to our Latin America experts.



020 3627 3097



CoxandKings.co.uk

# Discover Mexico

#### Mexico City & Surrounds

Anthropological Museum's superb collection • Huge pyramids of Teotihuacán

Vibrant and busy Mexico City offers an exciting mix of history, culture and modernity, coupled with an excellent range of hotels, restaurants and nightlife. In the city centre, visit the vast main plaza (Zócalo), the ruined Aztec Templo Mayor and impressive museums, including the superb Museum of Anthropology. To the south lie the charming historic districts of San Angel and Coyoacán, where visitors can browse art galleries, relax at a pavement cafe or visit the former homes of Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo. Travel north-east from the city to visit the magnificent Sun and Moon pyramids in the huge ancient city of Teotihuacán.



Teotihuacán

#### Chihuahua El Fuerte Gulf of Mexico La Paz Cancun Los Cabos Mexico Mérida Guanajuato City Chichen Itzá Morelia Zihuatanejo Oaxaca Palenque San Cristóbal de las Casas Pacific Ocean

#### Chiapas

Indigenous communities • Stunning jungle • Mayan ruins • Rivers, canyons & waterfalls

The verdant state of Chiapas features cool mountain highlands, coffee plantations and lush rainforest. Visit the highland colonial city of San Cristóbal de las Casas and traditional Tzotzil Mayan communities. Explore the mysterious Mayan ruins of Palenque, reached by road from San Cristóbal or Villahermosa, and marvel at river canyons or the beautiful waterfalls of Agua Azul and Misol-Ha.

Deep in the Lacandon jungle, on the river border with Guatemala, lie the remote ruins of Yaxchilán and Bonampak, resplendent with vividly coloured murals, ornate carvings and superbly preserved stelae, and home to an abundance of tropical birds.



Agua Azul, Chiapas

#### Oaxaca & Surrounds

Colonial buildings • Renowned regional cuisine • Monte Albán

Once the centre of the Mixtec and Zapotec civilisations, the city of Oaxaca is one of the country's most beautiful colonial towns. The main square is lined with graceful arcades, sidewalk cafes and street vendors, and the surrounding cobbled streets are easily explored on foot. Visit the magnificent baroque Santo Domingo church with its adjoining museum and botanical garden, and then browse the markets for a wide variety of local crafts and textiles. Stay in a converted colonial house or former convent and soak up the atmosphere while sampling delicious regional cooking.

In the surrounding central valleys, discover colourful markets and small indigenous villages specialising in different crafts, such as weaving and pottery. Visit archaeological ruins, including the Mixtec stonework friezes in the little town of Mitla and Monte Albán, whose sheer grandeur, perfect geometry, remarkable murals of gods and mountaintop setting make this ancient Zapotec capital an aweinspiring sight.

#### Yucatan Peninsula

Impressive ancient Mayan ruins • Luxury colonial haciendas • Caribbean coastal retreats

The Yucatan peninsula is covered in jungle and dotted with ancient ruins, while its white sand beaches and azure waters are perfect for relaxation. Explore inland using the delightful colonial city of Mérida as a base or stay in a beautifully converted rural hacienda. Discover the awe-inspiring pyramids and temples of Mayan sites such as Uxmal, Chichén Itzá and Coba. Make a side-trip to the historic walled town of Campeche or swim in a cenote, a unique freshwater sinkhole created by underground rivers. Visit the mangroves of Celestún, a coastal reserve with abundant birdlife, or little Holbox island where placid whale sharks congregate (May – Sep).



Paseo de Montejo, Mérida



Tulum



Chichén Itzá

#### C&K Recommends...

#### Mérida

Explore the colonial centre of Mérida and colourful markets selling handmade hammocks and embroidered *huipils* (tunics). Savour the atmosphere at a pavement cafe or listen to traditional Mexican music in a shaded park. Take a carriage ride past the mansions on the broad Paseo de Montejo or sample delicious local cuisine, such as *cochinita pibil* – roasted pork marinated in spices and orange juice.

#### Chichén Itzá

Chichén Itzá is the best restored of the Yucatan's Mayan sites, with a superb ceremonial ball court, El Caracol observatory, a sacred cenote, and the reclining figure of Chac Mool. On the spring and autumn equinoxes, the afternoon sun casts a shadow resembling the downward gliding of a snake on the side of El Castillo pyramid, also known as the Temple of Kukulkan, or 'The Temple of the Plumed Serpent'.

#### Mayan Riviera

The beautiful Mayan Riviera runs south along the Caribbean coast from Cancun, past fishing villages and the lively town of Playa del Carmen. The coast is blessed with white sandy beaches and turquoise seas, while offshore lies the world's second largest coral reef. Relax at an intimate beachside resort property and visit the clifftop ruins of Tulum, snorkel the reefs or search for wildlife by boat in the Sian Ka'an Reserve.

#### A suggested itinerary...

#### **Mexico in Style**

11 days & 9 nights from £3,295 Category • Luxury

Stay in character hotels and haciendas while discovering Mexico's archaeological sites and scenic landscapes.

#### Days 1-3: Fly to Mexico City

Fly to Mexico City and stay at the elegant Four Seasons Hotel. Tour the historic centre and outstanding Museum of Anthropology and visit the huge pyramids of the ancient

city of Teotihuacán. (B)

#### Days 4-6: Fly to Mérida • Uxmal

Fly to Mérida on the Yucatan peninsula. Relax in the beautiful surroundings of the luxurious **Hacienda Temozon** or visit one of the cenotes (sinkholes). Explore Mérida's colonial town and the Mayan site of Uxmal. (B)

Days 7-9: Chichén Itzá • Mayan Riviera Explore Chichén Itzá before heading to the beautiful Mayan Riviera. Days at leisure. For those wishing to see Chichén Itzá at night it is possible to spend a night near the site. (B)

Days 10-11: Cancun • Fly home

Transfer to Cancun and fly home. (B) (N)

Guideline Prices (incl. flights)

Low season from: £3,295 (May – Jun, Oct) High season from: £3,795 (Jan – Mar)

Tour code: MLX



#### Northern Colonial Towns

History & colonial architecture • Arts & crafts • Beautiful Lake Pátzcuaro

Discover central and northern Mexico's splendid colonial cities, and explore historic centres filled with ornate churches and mansions, shady squares and courtyards, each with a distinct character.

North of Mexico City lies Querétaro, which played a key role in Mexico's history, the artists' town of San Miguel de Allende, and the former silver-mining towns of Guanajuato and Zacatecas. To the west is rose-tinted Morelia, with its grand colonial buildings, nearby Monarch butterfly reserves, and the indigenous communities of picturesque lakeside Pátzcuaro. Historic Puebla, to the east, is known for its baroque churches and Talavera ceramic tiles.



Copper Canyon



San Miguel de Allende



Baja California

#### Copper Canyon

#### Scenic train journeys • Dramatic scenery & hikes

Offering some of Mexico's most dramatic scenery, the Copper Canyon is a series of spectacular rugged and forested canyons, some even deeper than the Grand Canyon. It is home to the Tarahumara people, who still live in small settlements and caves in the canyon.

The Chihuahua Pacific Railway (*El Chepe*) is one of the most breathtaking train journeys in the world, travelling from the town of Chihuahua, famous for its revolutionary history, all the way to Los Mochis on the coast, or vice versa. Stop at Divisadero for extraordinary views and hiking opportunities combined with an awe-inspiring cable car ride. En route, visit Creel and Cerocahui for further exploration of valleys, lakes and canyons or overnight in the delightful colonial town of El Fuerte.

#### Baja California

#### Desert peninsula • Whale watching & marine life

Explore the desert landscape of the Baja peninsula and discover pristine bays surrounded by calm turquoise waters teeming with marine life. At the southern tip of the peninsula, find the quaint old town of San José del Cabo and the luxury resorts and beautiful sandy beaches of Los Cabos. Alternatively, stay in the picturesque village of Todos Santos on the Pacific coast and unwind visiting local galleries or sipping a margarita at sunset.

The unspoilt Espiritu Santo island, situated close to La Paz on the Sea of Cortez, is the ideal place to camp in luxury and spot sea lions as well as blue whales. Further north lies sleepy and historic Loreto while, inland, Jesuit missions, ancient cave paintings and arid mountain scenery are to be found.

#### A suggested itinerary...

#### **Baja & the Copper Canyon**

9 days & 8 nights from £1,895 Category • Standard

Combine the dramatic scenery of the Copper Canyon train ride with Baja peninsula's spectacular desert and coastal scenery.

#### Day 1: Chihuahua

Begin in Chihuahua in the north. Visit Pancho Villa's former home and the Museum of Revolution. (N)

#### Days 2-3: Copper Canyon

Board the Chihuahua Pacific train to the stunning Copper Canyon. Stay at **Posada** 

**Barrancas Mirador**. Visit the Divisadero outlook. (B, D)

#### Day 4: El Fuerte

Descend by train through the Sierra Madre mountains to El Fuerte. (B)

#### Days 5-6: La Paz

Drive to Los Mochis and fly or take an overnight ferry (private cabin with air conditioning) across the Sea of Cortez to La Paz. Boat trip to Espiritu Santo island to spot sea lions and blue whales (Jan – Mar). (B)

#### Days 7-8: Baja peninsula

Continue through the rugged desert to Los Cabos or picturesque Todos Santos and relax on the coast for 2 nights. (B)

#### Day 9: Baja peninsula

Extend your stay or continue your journey. (B)

**Alternative itineraries:** This journey can be arranged in reverse order with additional stops and visits. This itinerary is subject to train schedules.

Guideline Prices (excl. flights)

Low season from: £1,895 (Sep) High season from: £1,995 (Jan–Feb, Oct–Nov)

Tour code: BAJ



# Experiences in Mexico



#### Oaxaca cuisine & cooking classes

The gastronomic capital of Mexico, Oaxaca is famed for its diverse and flavoursome cuisine. Specialities range from delicious, rich and spicy sauces such as *mole*, to fried grasshoppers seasoned with onion and garlic. An excellent way to learn more is to take a cookery class. Visit a local market, where ingredients are sampled and bought, receive an informal lecture and then put on an apron and create a delicious five-course meal.



#### Sumidero Canyon boat ride

The spectacular Sumidero Canyon is more than 1,000 metres deep in places and is surrounded by lush vegetation with waterfalls spilling down its walls. Journey along the winding Grijalva river by boat and spot monkeys, egrets and crocodiles, as well as hidden caves along the cliff faces. Legend has it that the local Chiapa warriors used to hurl themselves into the canyon rather than submit to the colonial Spanish rule.



#### Chepe Express train ride

The *Chepe Express* runs daily between Creel and Los Mochis and vice versa, with stops at Divisadero and El Fuerte. The 60-seat tourist class and 45-seat executive class carriages feature panoramic windows and reclining seats. Relax in the comfortable bar-lounge or observation cars, sample traditional Mexican dishes in the two-level dining carriage and admire the views from the panoramic or domed windows.



#### Palenque Mayan ruins

The ruins of this magnificent ancient city are considered among the most spectacular in Mexico and feature fine Mayan architecture and painted stucco decorations in a stunning jungle setting. Streams and waterfalls run through the steep hillsides and terraces, while the cries of howler monkeys echo in the trees. The site is dominated by the eight-storey Temple of the Inscriptions, which contains the tomb of the seventh-century ruler Pakal.



#### Visit indigenous villages, Chiapas

Around San Cristóbal lie fascinating Tzotzil Mayan villages such as Zinacantan and San Juan Chamula. The Mayans here have a distinct identity and proudly wear traditional outfits with elaborate decoration and ribboned hats. Numerous indigenous languages are in use in this region and Spanish is often the second language. Older pre-Hispanic customs are mixed with Catholicism and images of patron saints are venerated in various rituals and festivals.



#### Whale-watching boat trip, Baja California

Between January and March, hundreds of grey whales migrate to Baja's Pacific coast to calve in the warm, calm waters of Laguna San Ignacio and Bahia Magdalena. Meanwhile, humpbacks can be seen off the coast of Los Cabos and blue whales may be spotted near La Paz. A boat trip provides the chance to get closer to these friendly majestic giants, which occasionally come almost within touching distance.

# Highlights of Mexico

**Duration** • 14 days & 12 nights **Category** • Standard

#### This group tour features...

- ❖ 3- & 4-star accommodation
- Flexible extensions & flight upgrades available
- Average group size 14 people (max 26)
- Direct international flights with British Airways
- Internal flights
- Transfers in air-conditioned vehicles
- Experienced local tour manager
- 12 breakfasts, 5 lunches
- Guided sightseeing & entrance fees
- Festival departures<sup>†</sup>

#### Weather

#### Oaxaca

	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	26	27	29	30	30	27	26	26	25	26	26	26
В	7	8	10	12	13	13	13	13	13	11	9	7
C	4	5	11	31	77	140	92	103	125	51	10	5

#### Merida

	J	F	М	Α	M	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	29	30	33	35	36	34	34	34	33	31	30	29
В	17	18	20	21	23	23	23	23	23	21	19	18
C	35	25	20	25	74	146	145	168	186	108	35	32

A: Maximum average temperature (C) B: Minimum average temperature (C) C: Average rainfall (mm)

#### Area map



**Group tour •** From £2,895 (incl. flights) **Private tour •** From £3,395 (incl. flights)



Oaxaca

Discover the legacy of the Aztec, Mayan and Spanish empires on this outstanding tour of Mexico's finest sites. Explore magnificent pyramids and temples, colourful colonial cities with their indigenous influences, and the natural beauty of valleys, canyons, waterfalls and tropical rainforests.

#### C&K Signature experiences

- Boat ride through the Sumidero Canyon
- Visit indigenous villages & Mayan sites
- Witness local traditions on festival departures including Easter & the Day of the Dead

#### Day 1: Fly to Mexico City

Fly from London (regional connections available) to Mexico City with British Airways. Transfer to the Galeria Plaza Hotel for 3 nights. (N)

#### Day 2: Mexico City

City tour, including the Zócalo (main plaza), the murals of Diego Rivera, the National Cathedral and the Anthropological Museum. (B, L)

#### Day 3: Teotihuacán

Morning visit to the historic Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Continue to the pyramids of Teotihuacán, dating back 2,000 years. (B, L)

#### Day 4: Fly to Oaxaca

Fly to Oaxaca, a beautiful colonial city, and take an afternoon tour. Stay 2 nights at the **Parador San Miguel**. (B)

#### Day 5: Monte Albán

Morning visit to the impressive ancient Zapotec capital of Monte Albán. Afternoon at leisure or optional visit to the ruins of Mitla. (B)

#### Days 6-7: Fly to Tuxtla Gutierrez • San Cristóbal de las Casas

Fly to Tuxtla Gutierrez, via Mexico City. Take a boat along the Grijalva river to the Sumidero Canyon. Continue to San Cristóbal de las Casas for 2 nights at the **Hotel Diego de Mazariegos**. The next morning, tour this town and nearby indigenous villages. Afternoon at leisure. (B)

#### Day 8: Agua Azul waterfalls • Palenque

Drive from the cool highlands to the tropical lowlands and Palenque, via the waterfalls of Agua Azul. Stay 1 night at the **Chan Kah Resort**. (B, L)

#### Day 9: Palenque • Campeche

Morning tour of Palenque, one of the greatest Mayan sites. Afternoon drive to Campeche via the scenic Sabuncuy coast (5 hours). Overnight at the Hotel Plaza Campeche. (B, L)

#### Day 10: Kabah • Uxmal • Mérida

In the morning, drive to the Palace of Masks at Kabah and then head to Uxmal for a tour of the Mayan ceremonial centre. In the afternoon continue to Mérida and stay at the Casa del Balam for 2 nights. (B, L)

#### Day 11: Mérida

Morning walking tour of the city. (B)

#### Day 12: Chichén Itzá

Transfer to Chichén Itzá and tour the ancient Mayan city. Overnight at **Hacienda Chichen**. (B)

#### Days 13-14: Fly to London

Transfer to Cancun for a direct overnight flight to London with British Airways. (B) (N)

**Meal basis:** As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

#### **Extensions**

#### Copper Canyon + tour

6 days & 5 nights from £1,095 Tour code: HOMCOP

Explore northern Mexico's vast Copper Canyon, one and a half times deeper than the Grand Canyon, and its spectacular landscapes.

#### Day 1: Fly to Mexico City

Fly to Mexico City and overnight at an airport hotel. (N)



Palengue

#### Day 2: El Fuerte

Fly to Los Mochis and transfer by road to El Fuerte for 1 night at **Posada del Hidalgo**. (B) **Days 3-4: Barrancas** 

Board the *Chepe* train to ascend the Sierra Madre mountains. Stay for 2 nights at the **Hotel Posada Barrancas Mirador**, where all rooms have canyon views. Take a shared walk to the Divisadero viewing point, with time at leisure for optional excursions. (B, L, D)

#### **Day 5: Los Mochis**

Afternoon descent by train to Los Mochis and stay overnight at Hotel Santa Anita. (B)

Day 6: Fly to Mexico City

Fly to Mexico City and join the group. (B)

#### **Tour + Guatemala**

8 days & 6 nights from £1,695 Tour code: HOMGUA

Take in the highlights of Guatemala, including the ancient Mayan site of Tikal in the Petén jungle, the beautiful colonial city of Antigua and Lake Atitlán.

#### Day 13: Cancun

Transfer to Cancun for an overnight stay at the **Presidente InterContinental**. (B)

#### Days 14-15: Guatemala City • Tikal

Fly to Guatemala City and on to Flores. Stay for 2 nights at the Camino Real and tour Tikal. (B) Day 16: Lake Atitlán

Fly back to Guatemala City and continue to Lake Atitlán. Take a boat trip to local villages and overnight at **Hotel Atitl**án. (B)

#### Day 17: Chichicastenago • Antigua

Morning visit to Chichicastenango indigenous market and transfer to Antigua for 2 nights at **Méson de María**. (B, L)

#### Day 18: Antigua

Morning walking tour of Antigua, including the main plaza, the cathedral and La Merced monastery. (B)

Days 19-20: Fly to London via Madrid/Miami

#### Tour + Caribbean Coast

5 days & 3 nights from £525 Tour code: HOMCEB

Spend 3 nights at the **Rosa del Viento** enjoying the turquoise waters and sandy beaches of the Mayan Riviera, near Tulum. Alternatively, upgrade to the **Ana y José Hotel & Spa** from £125 per person (see page 131).

#### † Festival departures

The 8 April 2020 and 31 March 2021 tours coincide with the Semana Santa (Easter week) processions in Oaxaca, while the 28 October departure coincides with the Day of the Dead

celebrations, where families pay respect to the deceased with offerings of flowers and food.

#### **Important information**

**Accessibility:** Uneven terrain is covered during visits to the ruins.

Private & tailor-made travel: This itinerary can be taken privately on a date that suits you, for which guideline prices are shown. Alternatively, it can be tailored to your exact requirements. Please call 020 3627 3097 or visit CoxandKings.co.uk/make-an-enquiry

#### **Guideline prices for 2020-21**

#### Group tour

Low season from £2,895 Guide price months: Mar

High season from £2,895 Guide price months: Feb, Oct – Nov

Single supplement from £545

#### Private travel

Low season from £3,395 Guide price months: Sep

High season from £3,495 Guide price months: Jan – Mar, Nov

Single supplement on request

The guideline high season prices may be significantly lower than the peak season prices (21 Dec - 02 Jan)

#### **British Airways flight upgrades**

World Traveller Plus from £395 return Club World from £2,295 return

#### Regional air connections

Prices on request. British Airways to/from Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Manchester, Newcastle or Belfast.

The guideline tour prices are all per person in UK pounds, based on two people sharing a twin / double room. For current prices for all departure dates, including special offers when applicable, please call 020 3627 3097 or visit CoxandKings.co.uk. All prices are subject to availability.

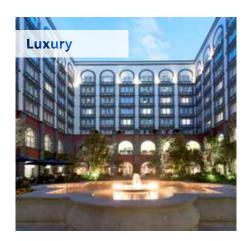
#### **Departure dates for 2020-21**

**Out (Fri)** Rtn (Thu) 07 Feb 20 20 Feb 20 06 Mar 20 19 Mar 20 Out (Wed) Rtn (Tue) †08 Apr 20 21 Apr 20 †28 Oct 20 10 Nov 20 Out (Fri) Rtn (Thu) 13 Nov 20 26 Nov 20 05 Feb 21 18 Feb 21 **Out (Fri)** Rtn (Thu) 05 Mar 21 18 Mar 21 †31 Mar 21 13 Apr 21

Tour code: HOM

# Mexico Hotels & Haciendas

This is a selection of our recommended accommodation. Please see our website for more options.

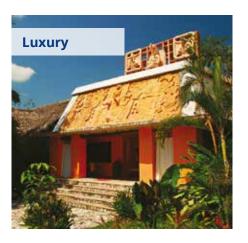


#### Four Seasons Hotel, Mexico City

The Four Seasons Hotel is ideally situated on the Paseo de la Reforma, Mexico City's main thoroughfare, near Chapultepec Park. Built in a colonial hacienda style, it features high ceilings, wood panelling and polished marble floors. The majority of the spacious, elegant guestrooms and suites overlook a beautiful courtyard with a central fountain, providing a peaceful oasis away from the hustle and bustle of the city.

#### Features:

240 rooms, 2 restaurants, swimming pool, spa.



#### Quinta Cha Nab Nal, Palengue

Quinta Cha Nab Nal is a luxurious boutique hotel situated 3km from the archaeological site of Palenque, and surrounded by lush jungle vegetation. There are just seven sophisticated suites with traditional pre-Hispanic design, a landscaped outdoor swimming pool and a restaurant serving European and local dishes. The spa offers traditional and relaxing Mayan treatments, including temazcal (Mayan steam bath), used for healing and ritual purposes.

#### **Features**

8 suites, restaurant, bar, swimming pool, Mayan spa, Wi-Fi.



#### Las Alcobas, Mexico City

Las Alcobas is a luxurious boutique hotel located in the leafy, exclusive district of Polanco and only steps from high-end boutiques, restaurants and bars. The hotel features stylish contemporary rooms and suites with custom-made rosewood furniture and spacious bathrooms, an airy breakfast lounge and two gourmet restaurants offering Mexican and international cuisine. The Aurora spa offers a wide range of natural treatments.

#### Features:

35 rooms, 2 restaurants, bar, spa, Wi-Fi.

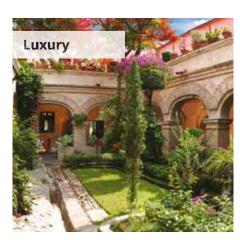


#### Belmond Casa de Sierra Nevada, San Miguel de Allende

Originally home to the town's archbishop, the Belmond Casa de Sierra Nevada comprises a collection of colonial buildings set around verdant courtyards in the heart of San Miguel de Allende. Rooms are designed to complement the building's original architecture, with no two the same. Enjoy fine dining or learn about Mexican cuisine at the acclaimed cooking school.

#### Features:

37 rooms, 2 restaurants, bar, 3 swimming pools, spa, tennis courts, Wi-Fi.



#### Quinta Real, Oaxaca

Housed in the former 16th-century Santa Catalina convent in the heart of Oaxaca, this grand hotel has been meticulously restored. Guestrooms are furnished with antiques and Mexican art, while the beautiful courtyards, edged with colonnades and seating areas, are filled with greenery and terracotta pots of bougainvillea. Breakfast can be served in the gardens, and there is a delightful outdoor pool and sun terrace.

#### Features:

91 rooms, restaurant, bar, outdoor pool, Wi-Fi.



#### Hotel Bo, San Cristobal de las Casas

Inspired by the four elements of earth, air, fire and water, the contemporary design of this hotel incorporates high beamed ceilings and geometric shapes, while still using Mayan motifs and traditional craftsmanship. The stylish guestrooms feature vibrant textiles and large windows overlooking pretty gardens of colourful blooms, water features and sun decks. The restaurant serves local Chiapas delicacies.

#### Features:

22 rooms, restaurant, bar, lounge/library, gym, Wi-Fi.

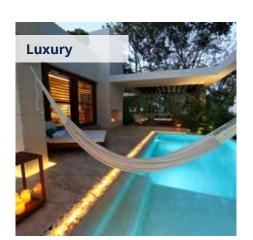


#### Hacienda Xcanatun, Merida

Hacienda Xcanatun is a beautiful 18th-century sisal hacienda situated on the outskirts of Merida. Set within expansive grounds, the property features original stone arches and marble terraces, and is filled with antiques and artwork. Each suite is uniquely decorated with a private veranda and hammock overlooking the tropical gardens. The restaurant serves a combination of French, Caribbean and Yucatecan food.

#### Features:

18 suites, restaurant, 2 swimming pools, spa.



#### Chablé resorts, Yucatan peninsula

Designed with a focus on their natural surroundings, the luxurious Chablé resorts evoke a sense of tranquillity. Chablé Yucatan, near Merida, is a former 16th-century hacienda with individual private villas dotted among lush tropical gardens. Chablé Maroma features elegant thatched casitas set on a white-sand beach on the Mayan Riviera. All rooms feature a private plunge pool and both properties offer Mayan-inspired spa treatments.

#### **Features:**

40 casitas (Merida) / 70 rooms (Maroma), 3 restaurants, bar, spa, swimming pool, Wi-Fi.



#### Hacienda Temozon, between Mérida & Uxmal

Set on a grand country estate, the Hacienda Temozon is a restored 17th-century mansion. The beautifully furnished guestrooms and suites, some with plunge pools, are located in the original buildings and feature tiled floors, large iron beds and spacious bathrooms. The restaurant and lounge overlook the lush gardens and pool, and the spa includes a candlelit cave.

#### Features:

28 rooms, restaurant, bar, swimming pool, spa.



#### Belmond Maroma Resort & Spa, Riviera Maya

The exclusive Belmond Maroma Resort & Spa has a beachfront location on a beautiful and secluded stretch of the Mayan Riviera, nestled between the jungle and the turquoise sea. Guestrooms overlook tropical gardens or the ocean and feature hand-painted tiles, terraces and hammocks. The two restaurants offer gourmet Mexican cuisine and it is possible to dine on the beach under the stars.

#### **Features:**

63 rooms & suites, 2 restaurants, beachfront bar, 3 outdoor pools, spa, tennis courts, Wi-Fi.



#### Hacienda Puerta Campeche, Campeche

This charming property was created from a block of 17th-century houses in the historic town of Campeche. Colourful adobe walls and archways, patios and tropical gardens characterise the property. There is a beautiful roof terrace, while a special feature is the pool, which twists through former corridors and old rooms. The location is perfect for exploring the old town.

#### Features:

15 rooms, restaurant, bar, swimming pool, spa,



#### Ana y Jose Hotel & Spa, Tulum

Set on a white-sand beach a short drive from the famous Mayan ruins at Tulum, this charming hotel is comprised of two-storey thatched cottages surrounded by pretty gardens and swaying palm trees. Rooms are decorated with regional woods and local craft furniture and feature a private balcony or terrace. The beachfront spa offers an extensive range of treatments and the restaurant serves traditional Mexican cuisine.

#### Features:

31 rooms, spa, swimming pool, gardens, terrace, restaurant, bar, Wi-Fi.





# Costa Rica

# Group tours • Tailor-made travel

One of the most ecologically diverse places on Earth and a nature-lover's paradise, Costa Rica's landscapes range from smouldering volcanoes, cloud forests and coffee plantations to pristine rainforests and beautiful beaches on the Caribbean and Pacific coasts.

Mexico Cuba

Belize

Honduras

Guatemala — Nicaragua

El Salvador — Nicaragua

ristine Costa Rica — Panama

National parks and reserves protect more than a quarter of this small country's territory and its incredible biodiversity, including thousands of plant varieties, numerous kinds of colourful butterflies and more than 800 bird species. The country's relatively small size allows for easy exploration by road or using one of the domestic airlines that link the capital, San José, in the highlands to the often remote coastal areas. An abundance of unspoilt beaches backed by tropical jungle make for idyllic relaxation at the end of a trip here.

#### **Discover Costa Rica**

- 134 San José & the Central Valley, Monteverde & cloud forests, Tortuguero & the Caribbean
- 135 Arenal & the north
- 136 Corcovado & the Osa peninsula, Manuel Antonio & the Central Pacific, Tamarindo & the Nicoya peninsula
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#### **Small group & private tours**

- 138 Natural Splendours of Costa Rica Group or private
- 140 Tour extensions
- 142 Panama & Costa Rica Experience Solo Travellers tour
- 158 Splendours of Central America Group or private

#### Places to stay - our suggestions

144 Costa Rica hotels & lodges

#### Climate

San José and the central highlands have a warm climate with cool nights due to the elevation (1,175 metres). The Pacific coast is also warm and generally drier than the Caribbean coast. The green season runs from May to October and encompasses the whole country.

#### San José

	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	23	24	25	25	25	25	24	24	24	24	24	23
В	15	15	16	16	17	17	17	17	17	17	16	16
С	6	7	9	56	261	296	205	282	372	343	155	36

#### Monteverde

	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	26	27	28	29	27	26	26	26	26	26	26	26
В	18	18	18	19	19	19	19	18	19	18	18	18
С	130	67	46	53	255	342	302	340	383	423	262	184

Key: A: Maximum average temperature (C) B: Minimum average temperature (C) C: Average rainfall (mm)

Inspired to venture further afield? Browse our website to discover additional destinations, places to stay and itineraries; or speak to our Latin America experts.



020 3627 3097



CoxandKings.co.uk

# Discover Costa Rica

#### San José & the Central Valley

#### Coffee tours • Poas volcano & crater lake

San José is located in the wide, fertile Central Valley, surrounded by mountains and volcanoes. A relatively small capital city, it combines modern with traditional Spanish architecture and contains some interesting museums, art galleries, restaurants and shops.

The surrounding volcanic Central Valley is a verdant agricultural region with small towns and national parks. Visitors have the opportunity to explore coffee plantations, the rainforest of the Braulio Carrillo National Park and the orchids and other flora at the Lankester Botanical Gardens.

The Poas volcano, just outside the city, has a spectacular turquoise crater lake and many bird species in its dwarf cloud forest. La Paz Waterfall Gardens on the slopes of the volcano offer a number of trails as well as a hummingbird garden and a huge butterfly garden.



Resplendent quetzal, Monteverde

#### Tortuguero & the Caribbean

#### Boat trips along canals • Turtle watching

Tortuguero National Park is located on the remote northern Caribbean coast and is accessible only by boat or plane. We recommend travelling past banana plantations and then taking a boat through the network of waterways that penetrate the dense tropical forests, linking rivers and lagoons.

Simple but comfortable lodges are located along the canal banks around the small town of Tortuguero, well situated for easy forest hikes or boat trips to spot wildlife such as monkeys, sloths, caimans and toucans. Green turtles lay their eggs on the beaches here between July and September while leatherbacks can be seen from March to June.

The untamed coast further south has pristine tropical beaches and an easy-going ambience, and is the heart of Costa Rica's Afro-Caribbean community. Head out to explore the nearby reef or lie in a hammock enjoying this quiet corner of the Caribbean.

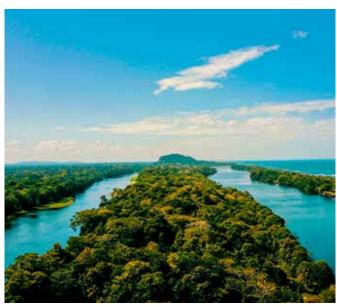


#### Monteverde & Cloud Forests

#### Quetzals & butterflies • Canopy walkways • Hiking trails

Reached along unpaved roads, the mist-shrouded Monteverde cloud forest and the adjacent, but smaller, Santa Elena Reserve are home to a wealth of plant life and many species of butterflies, insects and birds, including resplendent quetzals. Hike along trails surrounded by hanging vines and flowering orchids or stroll through the treetops on canopy walkways – suspended bridges that bring you closer to the flora and fauna.

A superb and quieter alternative is **El Silencio Lodge & Spa**, located in its own private reserve in the Central Valley area of Bajos del Toro. The privately owned 800-hectare reserve of Los Angeles cloud forest lies closer to San José but attracts fewer visitors than Monteverde.



Tortuguero canals



Arenal volcano



Rio Celeste, Tenorio National Park

#### Arenal

### Active volcanoes • Hot springs • Caño Negro boat trip & birdlife

The impressive cone-shaped Arenal volcano, until recently one of the region's most active, is surrounded by beautiful scenery. Attractions nearby include hot springs, canopy walkways in the treetops and boat trips on Lake Arenal, as well as along the Río Frío and the Caño Negro wetlands for superb birdwatching. The majority of the hotels are set in lush tropical gardens near the town of La Fortuna and provide excellent views of the mountain slopes from the comfort of your hotel room.

#### C&K Recommends...

#### Family explorations

Costa Rica's relatively small size, combined with its abundant beaches and tropical forest, provides a perfect balance of adventure and relaxation for a memorable family holiday. Itineraries can be as action packed as desired. Explore treetops from canopy walkways, marvel at smouldering volcanoes and spot monkeys, sloths, butterflies and hummingbirds while relaxing in hot springs.

#### Self-drive exploration

Explore this biologically diverse country at your own pace. Self-drive itineraries benefit from flexibility and short distances and, though road conditions may vary, there are plenty of opportunities to spot wildlife and discover interesting places.

#### The North

### Tenorio Volcano National Park • Rainforest hikes • Volcanic geology

To the north-west of Arenal are the Tenorio Volcano National Park and the turquoise waters of Rio Celeste. Herds of cattle still roam the grasslands of the Guanacaste province, home to the less-explored Rincon de la Vieja National Park and an active volcano, geothermal springs and boiling mud pools. The city of Liberia has an international airport, an alternative gateway to the country, while the region's lodges provide a last stop for those heading on to the rest of Central America.



Zip lining

#### A suggested itinerary...

#### **Costa Rica Family Adventure**

12 days & 10 nights from £1,795 Category • Standard

Take a self-drive or guided tour to explore the small natural paradise of Costa Rica with all the family. Discover tropical beaches, misty cloud forests and a wealth of wildlife.

#### Day 1: Fly to San José

Fly from London to San José with British Airways. Stay for 2 nights. (N)

#### Day 2: San José

Visit the impressive Poas or Irazú volcano. (B)

#### Days 3-4: Arenal

Drive to Arenal for a 2-night stay. For a bird'seye view of the rainforest, Arenal volcano and lake, visit the Sky Adventure Park. Relax at Tabacon's natural hot springs and pools. (B)

#### Days 5-6: Monteverde

Drive to Monteverde for 2 nights. Explore the cloud forest reserve; spot wildlife from hanging canopy walkways and visit butterfly and hummingbird gardens. (B)

#### Days 7-10: Manuel Antonio

Continue to Manuel Antonio for a 4-night stay at the characterful **Si Como No**. Relax on the Pacific coast, visit the national park or take an optional boat tour in search of dolphins. (B)

#### Days 11-12: San José • Fly home

Transfer to San José for an overnight direct flight to London with British Airways. (B) (N)

**Guided Guideline Prices** (incl. flights) Low season from: £2,195 (May – Jun) High season from: £2,495 (Jan – Mar)

**Self-drive Guideline Prices** (incl. flights) Low season from: £1,795 (May – Jun) High season from: £1,995 (Jan – Mar)

Tour code: FCR / FCW





Scarlet macaws, Corcovado



Tamarindo

# Corcovado & the Osa Peninsula

#### Remote peninsula • Virgin rainforest

The Osa peninsula sits between the Pacific Ocean and the Golfo Dulce in the remote south-west corner of Costa Rica. Home to the Corcovado National Park and covered in dense primary rainforest, this magnificent peninsula offers excellent hiking trails and an incredible concentration of flora, such as 70-metre high ceiba trees, and fauna, including howler and spider monkeys, sloths, ocelots, anteaters and more than 350 bird species. Offshore, palm-fringed Caño island is home to beautiful sandy beaches and excellent snorkelling opportunities. Jungle lodges range from simple and comfortable to rustic luxury.

# Manuel Antonio & the Central Pacific

#### Jungle-clad beaches • Superb wildlife viewing

The central Pacific coastline is perfect for combining exploration and relaxation. The small and superb Manuel Antonio National Park features lush rainforest fringed by beautiful beaches and rocky headlands. Its wildlife includes white-faced capuchins, howler and squirrel monkeys, toucans, sloths and agoutis. Hotels on the forested cliffs between the town of Quepos and the park enjoy panoramic ocean views and easy access to the beaches.

The Carara National Park to the north, bordered by the Tárcoles river, is home to crocodiles, monkeys and scarlet macaws. The less-visited coastline further south, towards Dominical and Uvita, gets wilder. At the Ballena National Marine Park it is possible to spot turtles, dolphins and whales, which migrate here to mate between December and April.

#### Tamarindo ど the Nicoya Peninsula

#### Unspoilt beaches • Nesting turtles

The Nicoya peninsula stretches down along the northern Pacific coastline, offering some of Costa Rica's finest beaches and one of the largest remaining areas of dry forest in Central America. The Bay of Papagayo offers stays at expansive luxury resorts, while the somewhat developed beach town of Tamarindo retains its laid-back atmosphere. Relax on the sandy beaches, explore the mangroves by boat or take an excursion to see nesting leatherback turtles (November – March). The southern part of Nicoya is more remote and has secluded hideaways such as **Punta Islita**, perched on a hillside above a private beach.



Capuchin monkeys, Manuel Antonio

#### A suggested itinerary...

#### **Luxury Tour of Costa Rica**

13 days & 11 nights from £3,495 Category • Luxury

Discover Costa Rica's ecosystems, volcanoes and oceanfront reserves while staying in some of the country's most stylish properties.

#### Day 1: Fly to San José

Fly to San José with British Airways and overnight at the **Xandari Hotel**. (N)

Days 2-4: Fly to the Osa peninsula Fly to the Osa peninsula for 3 nights at El Remanso or Lapa Rios, set in private reserves. Take optional shared excursions to explore the rainforest or ocean. (B, L, D)

#### Days 5-6: Fly to San José • Arenal

Fly to San José and transfer to Arenal for 2 nights at the **Arenal Nayara Hotel**. Take a tour of Caño Negro to spot birds, monkeys, sloths and caimans. (B, L)

#### Days 7-8: Monteverde cloud forest

Travel overland by boat and car to **Senda Monteverde** for 2 nights. Explore the cloud forest and seek out remarkable birdlife. (B)

#### Days 9-11: Nicoya peninsula

Continue to the Nicoya peninsula and relax at the luxurious **Punta Islita** for 3 nights. (B)

#### Days 12-13: San José • Fly home

Transfer by road (approx. 5 hours) or fly to

San José for a return flight home. (B) (N)

#### Guideline Prices (incl. flights)

Low season from: £3,495 (May – Jun) High season from: £3,895 (Jan – Mar)

Tour code: CRL



# Experiences in Costa Rica



#### Volcano visit

Costa Rica is home to numerous volcanoes, many still active, and is a great place to witness the Earth's incredible power up close. Arenal, the most iconic volcano, has a perfect cone-shaped structure. Close to San Jose, the massive crater of Poas, spanning a mile across, regularly fumes and has a pastel-coloured sulphur lake at its bottom. Irazú is also easily accessed and on clear days offers views to both the Caribbean and the Pacific from its summit.



#### Caño Negro boat trip

Caño Negro, one of the most important wetland regions in Central America, is considered of international significance as it protects an impressive number of endangered migratory species. Drive two hours north of Arenal, close to the Nicaraguan border, and take a boat down the Frío river, its shores teeming with wildlife. Spot turtles, caimans, sloths, various monkeys and a wide range of birds including anhingas, Nicaraguan grackles, roseate spoonbills and wood storks.



#### Arenal's hot springs

A most enjoyable way to finish an active day in Arenal is to relax in one of the many natural thermal springs at the foot of the volcano. Choose from Tabacon, Ecotermales or Titoku hot springs for a soak in the soothing, mineral-rich natural pools of varying sizes and temperatures. The steaming hot springs are usually surrounded by lush vegetation, creating a truly idyllic place to unwind.



#### Canopy explorations

One of the best ways to explore Costa Rica's biodiverse forests is from the treetop canopy on the numerous and varied tours on offer. Thrill seekers can choose zip lining, a popular attraction, and spot wildlife while flying over the rainforest secured in a harness and attached to a sturdy cable. Non-adrenaline junkies can opt for a unique system of suspension bridges, aerial trams and trails for a bird's-eye view of the lively jungle below.



#### Turtle watching on the beach

Costa Rica is home to six species of turtles, including leatherbacks. During the nesting season, watch adults laying eggs and baby turtles making their way to the sea. Special night time excursions to see loggerhead, hawksbill and green turtles are possible at Tortuguero, on the Caribbean coast, between July and October. The Pacific coastline (Tamarindo and Ostional) attracts the highly endangered giant leatherbacks from October to March, when they come to the dark sand beaches to nest.



#### Birdwatching

More than 850 bird species, many of which are endemic, live in Costa Rica's varied habitats. Besides the cloud forests, the Osa peninsula and Caño Negro, waterfowl also thrive in the fresh and saltwater Palo Verde wetlands. The Sarapiquí rainforest around La Selva Biological Station contains more than 400 bird species, while the small community of San Gerardo is home to trogons and hummingbirds.

# Natural Splendours of Costa Rica

**Duration** • 11 days & 9 nights **Category** • Standard

**Group tour •** From £1,995 (incl. flights) **Private tour •** From £2,395 (incl. flights)

#### This group tour features...

- 3- & 4-star accommodation
- Flexible extensions & flight upgrades available
- Average group size 16 people (max 26)
- Direct international flights with British Airways
- Transfers in air-conditioned vehicles
- Experienced local tour manager
- 9 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 2 dinners
- Guided sightseeing & entrance fees



Red-eyed tree frog, Tortuguero

#### Weather

Monteverde

	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	26	27	28	29	27	26	26	26	26	26	26	26
В	18	18	18	19	19	19	19	18	19	18	18	18
C	130	67	46	53	255	342	302	340	383	423	262	184

#### **Tortuguero**

	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	29	30	31	32	31	30	30	29	29	29	29	29
В	23	23	24	24	24	23	24	23	23	23	22	22
C	412	257	177	251	338	431	624	463	303	400	600	619

A: Maximum average temperature (C) B: Minimum average temperature (C) C: Average rainfall (mm)

#### Area map



Located between the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean, the small country of Costa Rica is one of the most ecologically diverse places on Earth. This journey explores some of the major national parks and the astonishing variety of wildlife and contrasting habitats found here, including rainforest, cloud forest, volcanoes, lakes and canals.

#### C&K Signature experiences

- View the Arenal volcano from your hotel
- Cruise the canals of Tortuguero & cross Lake Arenal by boat
- Caño Negro boat trip
- Explore hanging bridges at Monteverde

#### Day 1: Fly to San José

Fly from London (regional connections available) to San José with British Airways. Transfer to the **Crowne Plaza Corobici Hotel** for 2 nights. (N)

#### Day 2: San José

In the morning, visit Poas or Irazú volcano and see its impressive crater and surroundings. Afternoon at leisure. (B)

#### Day 3: Tortuguero

Shared overland transfer to Caño Blanco on the Caribbean coast. Cruise through the

canals and backwaters that lead to Tortuguero, looking for birdlife, monkeys, sloths and other wildlife. Stay for 2 nights at Mawamba Lodge or similar. (B, L, D)

#### Day 4: Tortuguero

Full day of shared local excursions in Tortuguero. From July to September, an option is available to observe turtles nesting on the beach. (B, L, D)

#### Day 5: Arenal

Return to Caño Blanco by boat and drive to Arenal, visiting La Selva Biological Station en route. Learn about the scientific and conservation work of the researchers and take a short walk in the protected rainforest surroundings. Stay 2 nights at **Arenal Paraiso**, with views of the Arenal volcano. (B, L)

#### Day 6: Caño Negro

Full-day tour to Caño Negro, an important wetland habitat for a range of bird species. (B, L)

#### Day 7: Lake Arenal • Monteverde

Shared boat across Lake Arenal, taking in the spectacular views of the lake and its surroundings. Continue to Monteverde for 2 nights at the **Fonda Vela Hotel**. Afternoon visit to the Selvatura Butterfly Garden & Walkways and explore the treetop canopy from its hanging bridges. (B)

#### **Day 8: Monteverde**

Morning tour of the Monteverde cloud forest, a habitat for rare flora and fauna, such as the colourful quetzal bird. Afternoon visit to a typical family-run farm to learn about coffee and sugar cane production. (B, L)



Arenal volcano

Tour code: NSR

#### Day 9: Sarchí • San José

Return to San José via the town of Sarchí, home to traditional handicrafts and colourfully painted oxcarts. Stay overnight at the **Crowne Plaza Corobici Hotel**. (B)

#### Days 10-11: Fly to London

Transfer to the airport for a flight to London with British Airways. (B) (N)

**Meal basis:** As per itinerary – B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

#### **Important information**

**Standard tour:** All the lodges are comfortable but do not always have a wide range of facilities. The tour also includes some longer drives on unpaved roads.

**Itinerary:** Departures in April are based on indirect flights via the US or Bogotá.

**Private & tailor-made travel:** This itinerary can be taken privately on a date that suits you, for which guideline prices are shown. Alternatively, it can be tailored to your exact requirements. Please call 020 3627 3097 or visit CoxandKings.co.uk/make-an-enquiry

#### **Guideline prices for 2020-21**

#### Group tour

Low season from £1,995 Guide price months: Nov

High season from £2,195 Guide price months: Jan – Apr

Single supplement from £345

#### •

**Private travel**Low season from £2,395
Guide price months: Sep

High season from £2,595 Guide price months: Jan – Mar

Single supplement on request

The guideline high season prices may be significantly lower than the peak season prices (21 Dec –  $06 \, Jan$ )

#### **British Airways flight upgrades**

World Traveller Plus from £645 return Club World from £1,795 return

#### **Regional air connections**

Prices on request. British Airways to/from Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Manchester, Newcastle or Belfast.

The guideline tour prices are all per person in UK pounds, based on two people sharing a twin / double room. For current prices for all departure dates, including special offers when applicable, please call 020 3627 3097 or visit CoxandKings.co.uk. All prices are subject to availability.

#### Departure dates for 2020-21

| Out (Thu) Rtn (Sun) |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 16 Jan 20 26 Jan 20 | 05 Mar 20 15 Mar 20 | 26 Nov 20 06 Dec 20 | 18 Feb 21 28 Feb 21 |
| 30 Jan 20 09 Feb 20 | 19 Mar 20 29 Mar 20 | 14 Jan 21 24 Jan 21 | 04 Mar 21 14 Mar 21 |
| 06 Feb 20 16 Feb 20 | 26 Mar 20 05 Apr 20 | 28 Jan 21 07 Feb 21 | 11 Mar 21 21 Mar 21 |
| 13 Feb 20 23 Feb 20 | 16 Apr 20 26 Apr 20 | 04 Feb 21 14 Feb 21 | 18 Mar 21 28 Mar 21 |
| 20 Feb 20 01 Mar 20 | 12 Nov 20 22 Nov 20 | 11 Feb 21 21 Feb 21 | 08 Apr 21 18 Apr 21 |

### Natural Splendours of Costa Rica Extensions







Howler monkey, Manuel Antonio



Tamandua, Corcovado National Park



Resplendent quetzal, San Gerardo de Dota

#### **Tour + Corcovado** 5 days & 3 nights from £1,245 Tour code: NSRCOR

Corcovado National Park is a lowland primary rainforest described by *National Geographic* as 'the most biologically intense place on Earth'. Explore the trails to spot a plethora of exotic creatures including monkeys, toucans, scarlet macaws and other species. A reasonable level of fitness is required.

#### Day 10: Fly to Palmar Sur • Corcovado

Fly to Palmar Sur. Transfer by road to Sierpe and take a boat to **Casa Corcovado Lodge** for 3 nights. (B, L, D)

#### Days 11-12: Corcovado

Local shared excursions, including a tour to Corcovado National Park, a boat trip to Caño island and rainforest walks around the lodge. (B. L. D)

#### Days 13-14: Fly to London via San José

Transfer by boat and aeroplane to San José. Optional transfer to **Xandari Hotel** for lunch before boarding your overnight flight to London with British Airways. (B) (N)

**Flights:** Domestic flights have a luggage allowance of 12kg per person.

#### Tour + Manuel Antonio

6 days & 4 nights from £495 Tour code: NSRPAR

The smallest of Costa Rica's national parks, Manuel Antonio is also one of the most visited due to the remarkable diversity of its wildlife. Its rainforest extends right down to the beautiful beaches where it is possible to see a surprising concentration of animals, including monkeys, sloths and armadillos.

#### **Day 9: Manuel Antonio**

Leave the group in Sarchí and drive to Manuel Antonio (3 hours). Stay 4 nights at the **Parador Resort & Spa**, which features panoramic views of the ocean, beach and jungle. Please see page 145 for hotel details. (B)

#### Days 10-12: Manuel Antonio

At leisure or take optional excursions, such as rainforest walks and boat tours in search of dolphins. (B)

#### Day 13: Fly to London

Transfer to San José airport (approximately 2.5 hours) for an overnight flight to London with British Airways. (B)

#### Day 14: London

Arrive in London. (N)

#### San Gerardo de Dota + tour

3 days & 2 nights from £365 Tour code: NSRSGD

San Gerardo de Dota is located in the narrow Savegre river valley near Cerro de la Muerte, meaning 'the Mountain of Death', which is one of Costa Rica's highest peaks. This is a birdwatcher's and hiker's paradise, and its cloud forest is home to more than 150 bird species.

#### Day 1: Fly to San José • San Gerardo de Dota

Fly to San José and transfer to San Gerardo de Dota in one of the most beautiful regions of Costa Rica and stay 2 nights at **Trogon Lodge**, surrounded by nature trails. The lodge has 23 rooms and a family-style restaurant serving delicious home-cooked meals. (N)

#### Day 2: San Gerardo de Dota

Early morning shared birdwatching tour. The surrounding primary forest is one of the best places to spot resplendent quetzals, considered to be among the world's most striking birds. The rest of the time is at leisure or take optional excursions. (B)

#### Day 3: San José

Transfer to San José and join the rest of the group. (B)



Tamarindo beach



Casco Viejo, Panama City



Tamarindo is situated in Guanacaste on the Pacific coast, with an abundance of sandy beaches. Take boat trips through the mangroves and excursions to see leatherbacks, the largest of the sea turtle species, at Playa Grande (November - March).

#### Day 9: Tamarindo

Drive from Monteverde to Tamarindo (approx 3-4 hours). Stay for 3 nights at the Wyndham Tamarindo with ocean views. Optional upgrade to the Cala Luna from £65 or the beachfront Capitán Suizo from £185. (B)

#### Days 10-11: Tamarindo

At leisure or take optional excursions. Nearby is one of Costa Rica's most important nesting sites for endangered leatherback turtles. (B)

#### Day 12: San José

Transfer to San José by road (4.5 hours) and stay at the Crowne Plaza Corobici Hotel. (B) Days 13-14: Fly to London

Fly to London with British Airways. (B) (N)

Flights: On Day 12 it is possible to fly out of Liberia with United Airlines or KLM.



Granada, Nicaragua

#### Tour + Panama

5 days & 3 nights from £595 Tour code: NSRPTY

Travel along the Panama Canal, one of the extraordinary wonders of modern engineering, and see how boats transit through the locks. Explore the colonial heritage of Panama City or go birdwatching in the tropical rainforest.

#### Day 9: Fly to Panama City

Return to San José and fly to Panama City. Transfer to Hilton Garden Inn for 3 nights. (B) Day 10: Panama Canal

#### Half-day transit on the Panama Canal. (B, L)

Day 11: Panama City

Half-day tour of colonial Panama. Add an optional visit to the Miraflores canal locks or an optional excursion to Soberanía National Park, which offers some excellent birding. (B)

#### Days 12-13: Fly to London via Madrid / Miami

Fly to London, via Madrid / Miami with British Airways arriving the next day. (B) (N)

Further extension: It is possible to extend your stay at one of the Pacific beaches near to Panama City or the Caribbean Bocas del Toro archipelago.

#### Tour + Nicaragua

5 days & 3 nights from £545 Tour code: NSRNIC

Extend your trip with a visit to neighbouring Nicaragua. Marvel at its volcanic scenery, explore Granada's colonial heritage on the shores of Lake Nicaragua, and see the glowing lava of the active Masaya volcano. Flights to Costa Rica on this extension will be with United Airlines.

#### Day 9: Granada

Drive to the border and cross into Nicaragua (approx 7 hours). Stay 3 nights at Dario Hotel in the centre of Granada. (B)

#### Day 10: Granada

Morning tour of Granada and a short boat trip on Lake Nicaragua. Afternoon visit to Masaya handicraft market and the Masaya crater to see the glowing lava. (B)

#### Day 11: Granada

At leisure. Optional excursions include a morning hike along the cloud forest trails on the Mombacho volcano or a chocolate workshop. (B)

#### Days 12-13: Fly to London via the US

Transfer to Managua for a flight to London, via the US, with United Airlines. (B) (N)

# Panama & Costa Rica Experience

**Duration** • 14 days & 12 nights **Category** • Standard

**Solo group tour •** From £3,195 (incl. flights)

Solo Travellers

#### This solo group tour features...

- 3- & 4-star accommodation
- Twin / double rooms for single use
- Flexible extensions & flight upgrades available
- Average group size 12 people (max 18)
- International & internal flights
- Transfers in air-conditioned vehicles
- Experienced local tour guide in each country
- 12 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 5 dinners
- Welcome & farewell group dinners
- Guided sightseeing & entrance fees



Panama Canal crossing, Panama

Small in size yet possessing a superb biodiversity, Costa Rica and Panama offer a wide variety of ecosystems including volcanoes, rainforest and cloud forest, lakes, lagoons and beaches. This tour visits the incredible Panama Canal and a selection of Costa Rica's most renowned national parks.

#### Weather

San José

	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	23	24	25	25	25	25	24	24	24	24	24	23
В	15	15	16	16	17	17	17	17	17	17	16	16
C	6	7	9	56	261	296	205	282	372	343	155	36

A: Maximum average temperature (C) B: Minimum average temperature (C) C: Average rainfall (mm)

#### Area map



#### C&K Signature experiences

- Walking tour of stunning Manuel Antonio National Park
- Cruise along the Panama Canal
- ❖ View the Arenal volcano from your hotel
- Cruise the canals of Tortuguero

#### Day 1: Fly to Panama City via Madrid

Fly from London (regional connections available) to Panama City, via Madrid, with British Airways. Transfer to **Hilton Garden Inn** for 2 nights. (N)

#### Day 2: Panama Canal

Take a shared partial transit and cruise through the various locks of the Panama Canal. In the evening, enjoy a welcome dinner at a traditional restaurant. (B, L, D)

#### Day 3: Fly to San José

Morning city tour including the ruins of old

Panama and the historic colonial district. In the afternoon fly to San José for 2 nights at the Crowne Plaza Corobici Hotel. (B, D)

#### Day 4: San José

Morning visit to a coffee plantation on the slopes of the active Poas volcano and, subject to volcanic activity, see its crater lake. Afternoon at leisure. (B, L)

#### Day 5: Tortuguero

Travel by shared overland transfer to Caño Blanco on the Caribbean coast. Take a boat ride along the backwaters that lead to Tortuguero, looking for wildlife en route. Stay at **Pachira Lodge** for 2 nights. (B, L, D)

#### Day 6: Tortuguero

Full day of shared excursions exploring the tropical forest and waterways. (B, L, D)

#### Day 7: La Selva Biological Station • Arenal

Return to Caño Blanco by boat and drive to Arenal. En route, visit La Selva Biological Station to learn about the scientific and conservation work of the researchers and take a short walk in the protected rainforest surroundings. Stay 2 nights at **Arenal Paraiso** with views of Arenal volcano. (B, L)

#### Day 8: Arenal

Morning tour of the circuit of trails and suspension bridges, which allow an up-close view of the rainforest floor and treetop canopy. Optional evening visit to the hot springs. (B)



Hummingbird, Costa Rica

Tour code: CSG

#### Day 9: Monteverde

Drive along the shores of Lake Arenal, taking in the spectacular views of the lake and its surroundings. Continue through the green mountains to Monteverde and stay 2 nights at Monteverde Country Lodge. (B)

#### Day 10: Monteverde

Morning tour of the Monteverde cloud forest, a habitat for rare flora and fauna such as the colourful quetzal bird. Afternoon at leisure or take one of the optional excursions on offer, including a visit to the Santa Elena Reserve. (B)

#### Day 11: Manuel Antonio • Tarcoles

Drive to the central Pacific coast and visit Manuel Antonio for a walking tour of the national park, where the rainforest extends right down to the beautiful beaches. This small park is home to a surprising concentration of wildlife including sloths, iguanas, endangered squirrel monkeys and various colourful birds. Continue to Tarcoles and stay for 2 nights at the Villa Lapas Hotel, set on a private rainforest reserve. (B)

#### Day 12: Carara

Morning visit to Carara National Park, home to crocodiles, monkeys and scarlet macaws. In the evening enjoy a farewell dinner at a local restaurant near your hotel. (B, D)

#### Days 13-14: Fly to London

Transfer to San José and fly to London with British Airways. (B) (N)

Meal basis: As per itinerary - B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

#### Important information

Solo Travellers group tours: These small group tours have been specially created for single travellers. Benefits include single occupancy of double / twin rooms as standard and at sensible prices, plus the company of

like-minded travellers. View the complete collection at CoxandKings.co.uk/solo-travellers

Standard tour: All the lodges are comfortable, but do not always have a large range of facilities. This tour also includes some long drives on unpaved roads.

Locally escorted tour: This tour is led in each country by a local tour guide.

#### **Guideline prices for 2020-21**

#### Group tour

Low season from £3.195 Guide price months: Oct High season from £3,395 Guide price months: Jan - Feb

The guideline high season prices may be significantly lower than the peak season prices (21 Dec – 06 Jan)

#### **British Airways flight upgrades**

World Traveller Plus from £295 one way Club World from £1,995 return

#### **Regional air connections**

Prices on request. British Airways to/from Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Manchester, Newcastle or Belfast.

The guideline tour prices are all per person in UK pounds, based on single occupancy of a twin / double room. For current prices for all departure dates, including special offers when applicable, please call 020 3627 3097 or visit CoxandKings.co.uk. All prices are subject to availability.

#### Departure dates for 2020-21

Out (Thu) Out (Thu) Rtn (Wed) Out (Thu) Rtn (Wed) Rtn (Wed) 23 Jan 20 05 Feb 20 29 Oct 20 11 Nov 20 25 Feb 21 10 Mar 21 27 Feb 20 11 Mar 20 21 Jan 21 03 Feb 21

# Costa Rica Hotels & Lodges

This is a selection of our recommended accommodation. Please see our website for more options.



#### Hotel Grano de Oro, San Jose

Hotel Grano de Oro occupies a beautiful former colonial mansion located in the heart of San Jose. Rooms are individually decorated with traditional furniture and plush fabrics. The pretty tropical gardens and secluded rooftop garden terrace with whirlpool hot tub provide a peaceful oasis from the city. The gourmet restaurant serves European-influenced cuisine as well as local dishes.

#### Features:

40 rooms, restaurant, rooftop terrace, massage room, Wi-Fi.



#### Origins Lodge, Guanacaste

Set on a large verdant estate filled with tropical gardens, this upmarket lodge offers ultimate tranquillity and stretching vistas over tropical forests and Lake Nicaragua. Each suite has a handcrafted canopy bed and terrace with stunning 180-degree views of the surrounding valley. Features also include horse stables, fishing lakes and activities including nocturnal wildlife walks and a tour of local plantations.

#### Features:

7 rooms, restaurant, swimming pool, outdoor terrace, games room, Wi-Fi.

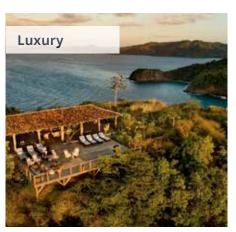


#### Senda Monteverde

Senda is located just minutes from the famous cloud forest reserve and the town of Monteverde. Rooms are housed in pairs in freestanding casitas and feature a contemporary design with open-air terraces overlooking lush gardens or the Pacific Ocean in the distance. Guests can enjoy the cool mountain climate and typical Costa Rican dishes with sustainably-sourced local ingredients.

#### Features:

24 rooms, restaurant, gardens, nature trails, Wi-Fi.



#### Kasiiya Papagayo

Located on 123 hectares of dry forest on the north Pacific coast, Kasiiya is an ecological resort built mostly from natural materials. The tented suites are raised on wood-framed platforms dotted throughout the tropical vegetation. Guests can enjoy the sounds of the jungle and ocean from their private terrace, relax on secluded beaches or indulge in spa treatments or nature-based wellness activities.

#### Features:

5 tented suites, 2 restaurants, sunset deck, beach cabana, spa, Wi-Fi.



#### Manatus Hotel, Tortuguero

Manatus Hotel is located just outside Tortuguero National Park, on a land strip between two canals. The charming lodge offers comfortable and stylish guestrooms, each with a private patio overlooking the surrounding tropical vegetation. Activities in the surrounding area include fishing and birdwatching as well as observing turtles seasonally nesting on the beach.

#### Features:

12 bungalows, restaurant, swimming pool, spa, art gallery, Wi-Fi.



#### Lagarta Lodge, Nosara

Lagarta Lodge is set on a hill in its own private nature reserve overlooking sandy beaches fringed with lush vegetation. Contemporary suites feature elegant teak furniture and nature-inspired art, as well as private verandas. Guests can enjoy magnificent views from the observation tower, infinity pools or sun deck. The beautiful sight of thousands of Olive Ridley turtles at Ostional is a 25-minute drive away.

#### Features:

26 suites, restaurant, bar/lounge, spa, 2 infinity pools, sun deck, Wi-Fi.



#### El Silencio Lodge & Spa, Bajos del Toro

This environmentally friendly retreat is set in a 200-hectare private reserve in the central region of Costa Rica. Surrounded by tropical cloud forest and waterfalls, the hotel features luxury suites, each with a private veranda and jacuzzi. Food is prepared with local organic ingredients, the spa has a full range of treatments and an eco-concierge accompanies explorations of the nature trails.

#### Features:

16 suites, 4 villas, 2 restaurants, bar, spa, ecoconcierge, eco-adventure park, Wi-Fi.

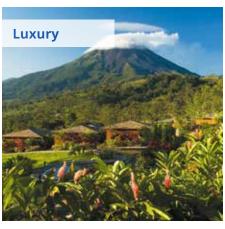


#### Cala Luna, Tamarindo

Cala Luna is set in lush landscaped gardens outside the beach town of Tamarindo, just a short walk away from the region's excellent beaches. Deluxe contemporary guestrooms feature a private terrace, while two- and three-bedroom villas also have private plunge pools. The open-air restaurant serves international cuisine using home-grown ingredients. Turtlewatching excursions can be arranged in season.

#### **Features:**

20 rooms & 21 villas, restaurant, bar/lounge, swimming pool, massage services, Wi-Fi.



#### Nayara Hotels & Tented Camp, Arenal

Set among tropical gardens, these hotels offer stunning views of Arenal volcano, fine dining and open-air spas. Adults-only Nayara Springs has just 35 beautiful villas, each with a private pool, while the nearby Nayara Hotel Spa & Gardens features 50 individual casitas, each with a private garden. The luxurious Nayara Tented Camp is the latest addition with a gourmet restaurant and natural mineral pool.

#### Features:

35 villas, 50 casitas, 18 tents, 4 restaurants, 2 bars, pools, spas, Wi-Fi.



#### Lapa Rios, Osa Peninsula

Lapa Rios is a remote eco-lodge situated in a 400-hectare private reserve of primary lowland tropical rainforest. Each of the bungalows features screen walls, to allow natural ventilation, and a large private deck overlooking the rainforest and the Pacific Ocean. There is an outdoor pool and an excellent restaurant. Activities available include guided forest walks, birdwatching and seasonal dolphin spotting.

#### Features:

16 rooms with ceiling fan, restaurant, bar, swimming pool.



#### Punta Islita, Nicoya Peninsula

Perched high on a hillside overlooking the Pacific Ocean, Punta Islita is the perfect retreat on the Nicoya peninsula. The hotel offers rooms, suites and villas with private terraces and views of the gardens, hills and ocean. Standout features are an infinity pool, an openair restaurant and included experiences and activities. The beautiful black sand beach can be accessed by foot or hotel shuttle.

#### Features:

41 rooms & private villas, 2 restaurants, bar, 2 pools, spa, tennis courts, golf course, Wi-Fi.



#### Parador Resort & Spa, Manuel Antonio

The Parador Resort & Spa is located on a forested peninsula on the central Pacific coastline. Set among 5 hectares of gardens and rainforest, this Mediterranean-style resort has panoramic views, while the guestrooms and suites all have balconies overlooking either the lush vegetation or the ocean. There is a selection of restaurants and a range of leisure facilities. The beach is a 10-minute walk away.

#### **Features:**

129 rooms, 4 restaurants, 2 bars, 3 swimming pools, spa, gym, Wi-Fi.





# Central America



## Group tours • Tailor-made travel

At the crossroads of the Americas, Panama is best known for the amazing feat of engineering that is the Panama Canal, connecting the Pacific Ocean and Caribbean Sea. Yet the country has so much more to offer with amazing biodiversity, idyllic coastlines and indigenous cultures.

Guatemala is a small country offering a spectacular range of attractions including beautiful colonial cities, Mayan sites, shimmering lakes, volcanoes and jungles teeming with wildlife. Indigenous Mayan people make up 60% of the population and proudly maintain their traditions and languages.

Belize is a tiny tropical paradise situated between Mexico and Guatemala. The interior contains large areas of protected forests and mountains, with diverse wildlife, rivers, cave systems and Mayan archaeological sites. The Caribbean coastline has the second largest barrier reef in the world.

Honduras, Nicaragua and El Salvador offer rewarding travel experiences off the main tourist trail. Nicaragua is a fascinating destination in its own right, yet can easily be combined with Costa Rica. Honduras can be added as a short side-trip or longer extension from Guatemala or, like El Salvador, can be included as part of a multi-country itinerary.

	Discover Central America		Small group & private tour
148	Panama	158	Splendours of Central America •
150	Guatemala		Group or private
152	Nicaragua		
154	Belize		Places to stay - our suggestions
156	El Salvador & Honduras	160	Central America hotels

#### Climate

Central American countries have a tropical climate. Temperatures tend to drop in places of altitude and intensify in low-lying jungle. Rainfall levels can vary considerably year on year, but in general the wet season runs from June to October for the whole region.

#### Panama City, Panama

	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	30	31	31	32	31	29	30	29	29	29	28	29
В	22	22	23	24	24	23	23	23	22	23	22	22
С	32	13	11	77	263	256	272	265	265	333	311	135

#### **Belize City, Belize**

	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	27	28	29	30	31	31	31	31	31	30	28	27
В	19	20	21	22	24	24	24	24	24	22	21	20
C	143	69	49	55	117	241	214	189	256	286	225	180

Key: A: Maximum average temperature (C) B: Minimum average temperature (C) C: Average rainfall (mm)

Inspired to venture further afield? Browse our website to discover additional destinations, places to stay and itineraries; or speak to our Latin America experts.



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# Discover Panama



Casco Viejo, Panama City



## Panama City

#### Panama Canal • Casco Viejo

Cosmopolitan Panama City offers a vibrant mix of gleaming skyscrapers and historic colonial districts, with the option to stay in modern hotels or beautiful character properties. Explore the city, visiting the eye-catching Museum of Biodiversity, designed by Frank Gehry; have a coffee in the colonial district of Casco Viejo, full of 17thcentury buildings; or watch the giant container ships queue up to pass through the Miraflores Locks.

## Central Panama

#### Azuero Peninsula • Folklore & festivals

The less touristic region of Central Panama is rich in culture and folklore, with picturesque scenery of undulating hills, rainforest and farmland. Considered the cultural heart of Panama, the Azuero Peninsula is peppered with pretty colonial towns and fishing villages. It is known for its vibrant festivals and parades that honour both indigenous heritage and Hispanic traditions. Colourful costumes and intriguing masks are brought alive by lively drumming music, dancing and fireworks.

## **Boquete**

#### Cloud forest • Coffee plantations

Boquete is located in the Chiriquí Highlands, in the heart of the country's mountainous coffee-growing region, known for its pristine natural setting. Its fertile soils and cool, fresh climate provides an ideal environment for citrus fruit cultivation and rich coffee harvests. Stavs here can be arranged in historic inns and charming small hotels on coffee plantations, while activities include coffee tours, scenic hikes, birdwatching, mountain biking and horse riding.

## Tropical Beaches & Islands

#### Bocas del Toro • San Blas Islands

Panama offers numerous tropical islands and sheltered coral reefs. Laid-back Bocas del Toro is home to rainforests, mangroves, deserted beaches and rich bird and marine life. The sun-soaked San Blas and Pearl Islands archipelagos provide opportunities to snorkel in clear seas, unwind on palm-fringed beaches or meet indigenous people. On the Pacific near Panama City, beach and city stays can be combined, while further west the coastline becomes wilder with remote ecolodges and private island hideaways.

#### A suggested itinerary...

#### **Panama Highlights**

11 days & 8 nights from £2,495 Category • Superior

Visit the world-renowned Panama Canal and explore different habitats before ending with a beach stay on the Pacific coast.

Days 1-3: Fly to Panama City via Mexico Fly overnight to Panama City for a 2-night stay. Explore the city including the colonial old town, and visit the Miraflores Locks Museum. (B)

Day 4: Panama Canal • Gamboa rainforest Take a half-day shared transit on the canal

(Thu, Fri or Sat.) Continue to the Gamboa Rainforest Resort for 1 night. (B, L)

Days 5-6: Soberanía • Fly to David • Boquete

Early-morning birdwatching excursion in Soberanía National Park. Afternoon flight to David and transfer to Boquete to explore the cloud forest trails. (B)

#### Days 7-9: Bocas del Toro

Transfer by road and boat to the Caribbean coast and the Bocas del Toro archipelago. Days at leisure to relax and snorkel the coral reefs. Optional tours include visits to isolated beaches and indigenous communities, rainforest walks and dolphin-watching. (B)

Days 10-11: Fly home via Panama & Mexico Fly to Panama City for your flight home. (B) (N) Guideline Prices (incl. flights) Low season from: £2,495 (May - Jun, Sep - Oct)

High season from: £2,545 (lan - Mar)

Tour code: PHI



## Experiences in Panama



#### Panama Canal crossing

Take a partial or full transit of the renowned waterway, passing through the rainforest, various locks and into Lake Gatun through the Gaillard Cut, where the canal breaks through the Continental Divide. The Miraflores Locks' visitor centre is highly recommended and has a museum dedicated to the fascinating history of the canal and an observation centre, where one can see large tankers passing through the locks with inches to spare on either side.



#### Birdwatching in Soberanía National Park

Panama's incredible biodiversity includes superb birding opportunities, with more than 950 species to spot. The rewarding Soberanía National Park, just an hour's drive from the capital city, has prolific birdlife and trails through the dense forest, also home to monkeys, sloths, coatis and iguanas. Tropical birds such as parrots, toucans, hummingbirds and trogans can be spotted along the Pipeline Road, the most renowned section.



#### Discover indigenous cultures

Panama is home to some intriguing indigenous communities. The fiercely independent Kuna reside in an autonomous region that includes the San Blas archipelago. Stays in simple lodges can be arranged to learn about their traditional way of life and brightly coloured *mola* textiles. In the rainforests of Chagres National Park, the Emberá live in traditional villages and are famous for their intricate hand-woven baskets and wood carvings.



#### Kayaking on Lake Gatun

Lake Gatun is an integral part of the Panama Canal and has several channels along its scenic, tropical forest-lined shores, ideally explored in a kayak. Paddle around small islands, once the tops of mountains, and look out for wildlife such as monkeys, sloths and abundant birdlife. The close proximity to the water also offers greater opportunities to spot turtles or basilisk lizards that have the amazing ability to run along the water's surface.



#### The Quetzal Trail

The Quetzal Trail, named after Panama's majestic bird, the quetzal, is one of the most scenic hikes in Central America. It follows the course of the Caldera river deep into Barú Volcano National Park with picturesque views of the Boquete valley along the way. There is a huge variety of plants, trees, mammals, and bird species including hummingbirds, warblers, finches and, as the name indicates, native resplendent quetzals.



#### San Blas Islands sailing

Sailing around the paradisiacal archipelago of San Blas is an ideal way to explore some of the more remote islands and enjoy powder white sand beaches with coconut groves, as well as unparalleled snorkelling opportunities. There are a range of sailboat options offering 3- or 6-day shared departures with a maximum of 10 passengers on board. It is also possible to privately charter your own yacht for a more exclusive experience.

# Discover Guatemala



Antigua



## Antigua

#### Colonial buildings • Coffee plantations

Despite being damaged by earthquakes and rebuilt on many occasions, this former 16th-century Guatemalan capital remains one of Central America's most striking colonial cities, set against a beautiful backdrop of three imposing volcanoes. Its cobbled streets, lined with pastel facades and terracotta roofs, are best explored on foot, with many impressive churches, convents and monasteries, as well as fountains, parks, gardens and beautiful private mansions.

### Lake Atitlán & Markets

#### Beautiful scenery • Mayan villages

Beautiful Lake Atitlán is located in Guatemala's highlands surrounded by perfectly conical volcanoes. From Panajachel, take a boat trip across the azure waters to the traditional villages of Santiago Atitlán and San Juan La Laguna, where colourfully dressed locals go about their daily routines, doing their washing on the banks of the lake, while fishermen catch their daily hauls. Several of the towns hold regular markets, selling wares from local produce to handcrafted trinkets.

## Tikal & El Petén

#### Remote Mayan ruins amid jungle

El Petén, in northern Guatemala, is a jungle region scattered with many lost Mayan cities and ceremonial centres. The magnificent site of Tikal has a collection of huge temples spread across a protected reserve. Other lesser-known ruins include Yaxha, closer to the Belize border and on the shores of a lagoon that provides picturesque panoramas and excellent birdwatching opportunities; remote Aguateca, accessible only by river; and Ceibal, with its well-preserved carvings.

## Rio Dulce & Livingston

#### Boat trips • Caribbean culture

Travel east to Rio Dulce, visiting the Mayan stelae of Quiriguá en route. A boat trip along the Dulce river, running from Lake Izabal to Livingston on the Caribbean coast, passes changing landscapes of rainforest, canyon cliffs and gorges. Livingston, a town with a strong Garifuna culture mixed with Maya and Afro-Caribbean influences, offers a contrasting side trip when travelling between Copán in Honduras and Tikal.

#### A suggested itinerary...

#### **Colours of Guatemala**

11 days & 9 nights from £2,695 Category • Standard

Take in the highlights of a country located in the heart of the ancient Mayan world and explore its spectacular range of attractions.

Days 1-2: Fly to Guatemala City • Antigua

Fly to Guatemala City and transfer to Antigua for 2 nights. Take a walking tour of the colonial city. (B)

Days 3-4: Lake Atitlán

Drive to Lake Atitlán, via a coffee farm and the

Mayan Traditions Museum. Explore the lake on a full-day tour visiting traditional villages. (B)

#### Day 5: Chichicastenango • Antigua

Visit the colourful indigenous market of Chichicastenango. Return to Antigua. (B, L)

#### **Day 6: Livingston**

Transfer to Puerto Barrios, visiting Quirigua en route, and take a boat to Livingston. (B, L)

#### Days 7-8: Livingston • El Petén

Explore Livingston and take a tour of the Dulce river gorges. Transfer to El Petén. Half-day tour of Tikal. (B, L)

#### Day 9: Fly to Guatemala City

Optional morning tour of Yaxha. Fly to Guatemala City (or continue by road to Belize). (B)

#### Days 10-11: Fly home

Fly home from Guatemala City. (B) (N)

Guideline Prices (incl. flights)

Low season from: £2,695 (May – Jun) High season from: £2,795 (Jan – Mar)

Tour code: CGU



# Experiences in Guatemala



#### Mayan ruins of Tikal

The ancient city of Tikal contains over 3,000 buildings, surrounded by dense jungle, home to howler monkeys, coatis and birds such as toucans, parrots and hummingbirds. The most iconic ruins are the remarkable pyramids of the Temple of the Grand Jaguar and the Temple of the Masks, that are set at opposite ends of the Grand Plaza, and tower above the rainforest canopy.



#### Antigua street food tour

Influenced by both the Mayas and the Spanish, Guatemalan cuisine is varied and flavoursome. Stroll along Antigua's cobblestone streets and eat like a local. Visit a thriving market to take in the sights and smells of a colourful array of fresh exotic fruits, vegetables and spices, then stop by small eateries to sample a range of traditional delicacies such as *rellenitos* (fried plantain dough filled with beans) and *chuchitos* (Guatemala-style tamales).



#### Chichicastenango market

The highland town of Chichicastenango, to the north of Lake Atitlán, holds one of the most famous and festive indigenous markets in Central America. Every Thursday and Sunday, hundreds of Mayan people from villages throughout the countryside gather at bustling Chichi, as it's locally known, to sell and trade textiles, pottery and fresh produce, and to perform religious ceremonies, creating a hub of colour, sights and sounds.



#### Semana Santa in Antigua

Picturesque Antigua is renowned for its elaborate Easter celebrations combining indigenous and Catholic traditions. Semana Santa (Holy Week), with its grand processions, floats with colourful handmade decorations and intricately designed *alfombras* (carpets) made from dyed sawdust, flowers and pine needles, attracts thousands of local revellers and visitors alike.



#### Meet Maximon, Lake Atitlan

In the village of Santiago Atitlán on the shores of the lake, visit the house of the venerated Mayan god Maximon, represented by a life-sized wooden figure dressed up and complete with a hat and a lit cigar in his mouth. The effigy of this unusual folk saint is moved to a different family home each year and is placed on a straw mat, often accompanied by offerings and a shaman performing rituals for the protection or cure of local people.



#### Uaxactún overnight experience

Uaxactún, not far from Tikal, is home to ancient temples and a small Maya community. Explore the fascinating structures that were built in exact alignment with the rising sun and enjoy sunset drinks atop a lookout tower followed by a candlelit dinner made with fresh local ingredients. Simple but comfortable camping accommodation offers the opportunity to fall asleep to the night-time sounds of the jungle in close proximity to Mayan ruins.

# Discover Nicaragua



Granada



### Granada

#### Colonial architecture • Lake Nicaragua

Founded in 1524 on the shores of Lake Nicaragua, Granada is one of the oldest cities in Latin America. Picturesque and colourful, it still retains much of its original architecture with cobbled streets, colonial churches and houses with beautiful indoor patios. Take a boat trip around the islands of the lake or stay on the private island of **Jicaro Ecolodge**. Granada is also an ideal base from which to visit nearby volcanoes, including the cloud forest-covered summit of Mombacho.

## Rio San Juan & the South

#### Wetlands ℰ rainforest • Historic fortress town

The tropical San Juan river runs along the border with Costa Rica, winding through dense rainforest, rolling hills and expansive wetlands, and out into the Caribbean Sea. Once an important indigenous trading route, the river was also frequented by pirates and Spanish conquistadores. The historic town of El Castillo is dominated by its 17th-century fortress, which overlooks stilted, colourful buildings, and is the access point to the pristine Indio Maíz Biological Reserve.

### León & the North

#### Cultural centre • Highland coffee estates

León is a colourful and artistic city steeped in a revolutionary past. Its cathedral is the largest in Central America and a climb to the top rewards with magnificent views of the city and surrounding volcanoes. Further inland, the beautiful highland coffee-growing region around Matagalpa is home to verdant mountains and valleys, unspoiled cloud forest and lush agricultural plantations. Follow nature trails on foot or enjoy a horseback ride through the countryside.

## Pacific Coast & Tropical Islands

#### Unspoilt beaches • Turtle watching

Nicaragua has a combined coastline of over 500 miles, from the rugged, jungle-backed golden sands of the Pacific coast, to idyllic, palm-fringed islands in the Caribbean. Located on the southern Pacific coast, San Juan del Sur is a tranquil fishing town overlooking a beautiful horseshoe bay. Stay at secluded hideaway resorts such as the delightful **Morgan's Rock** ecolodge or the exclusive **Mukul**. Thousands of turtles can be seen in the area from July to November.

#### A suggested itinerary...

#### Classic Nicaragua

9 days & 7 nights from £1,895 Category • Standard

Discover the highlights of Nicaragua's charming colonial cities, beautiful volcanic scenery and highland coffee plantations, with an optional beach stay extension.

**Day 1: Fly to Managua via the US**Fly to Managua and stay for 1 night. (N) **Days 2-3: Selva Negra** 

Transfer to Matagalpa for a 2-night stay in the cloud forest. Visit a coffee plantation. (B)

#### Day 4: León

Drive to León for 1 night. Enjoy an afternoon tour of the colonial city. (B)

#### Day 5: Granada

Morning visit of the Juan Venado Island Natural Reserve. Take a boat trip around the mangrove forest and spot birds and crocodiles. Continue to the ruins of León Viejo, the city's former site, and on to Granada for 3 nights. (B)

#### Days 6-7: Granada

Take a city tour of Granada and a boat trip around the isletas of Lake Nicaragua. Optional day trip to Ometepe island. (B)

#### Days 8-9: Fly home via the US

Transfer to Managua for your flight home via the US. Arrive the following day. (B) (N)

**Extensions:** It is possible to extend your holiday with a beach stay on the Pacific coast or Caribbean Corn Islands.

**Guideline Prices** (incl. flights) Low season from: £1,895 (May – Jun) High season from: £1,995 (Jan – Mar)

Tour code: CNR



# Experiences in Nicaragua



#### Chocolate workshop, Granada

The ChocoMuseo, located in a charming colonial building, offers interactive lessons on the process of roasting and grinding locally sourced cacao beans, as well as mixing and refining chocolate liquor. Learn about the history and botany of cacao, and sample Maya, Aztec and Spanish chocolate drinks. Finally, pick the ingredients of your choice and mould your own handmade Nicaraguan chocolate bar.



#### Ometepe island

This unspoilt island sits right in the middle of Lake Nicaragua and is dominated by the sight of two conical volcanoes. Its fertile volcanic soil provides an ideal habitat for exotic flora and fauna, which can be spotted on hikes through the cloud forest. Ometepe can be visited on a day trip, but an overnight stay is recommended to fully explore the island's lagoons, beaches and pre-Columbian sites.



#### Visit a coffee plantation, Matagalpa

The cool mountain air of the Selva Negra cloud forest, near the hillside town of Matagalpa, provides an ideal climate for the region's coffee production. Take a plantation tour to learn about the cultivation of 'shade coffee', grown under the canopy of old native trees, followed by a tasting session of organic highland coffee. Visits are possible year-round but the harvest season from November to February is the most interesting.



#### Active Masaya volcano

Masaya Volcano National Park features an imposing volcano made up of three craters. It is possible to peer into the mouth of the active Santiago crater from a viewpoint on its rim, and to observe the vivid red-orange lava bubbling far beneath. The fluorescent glow is even more impressive at dusk, and you may also see the bright green parakeets which curiously roost close to the crater each night.



#### Wildlife of Indio Maíz Biological Reserve

The remote primary forest of the Indio Maíz Biological Reserve is home to an incredibly rich ecosystem with over 600 bird species and 200 species of other wildlife. Explore the pristine jungle and waterways by foot, boat or kayak, and search for howler and spider monkeys, tree lizards, giant anteaters, jaguars and brightly coloured poison dart frogs. At night, take a moonlit boat ride to search for caimans.



#### Corn Islands barefoot bliss

Reached by a short flight off the Caribbean coast, the undeveloped, Corn Islands have a distinct Afro-Caribbean laid-back feel. Little Corn is just two sq km and is known for its serene turquoise waters, secluded beaches and superb snorkelling. For an understated, luxurious experience, stay at eco-chic Yemaya Island Hideaway & Spa (see page 161) and relax in hammocks slung between palm trees or swim amongst kaleidoscopic marine life.

# Discover Belize



Jaguar



## The Cayo District

#### Outdoor activities • Mayan sites

The Cayo District is located in western Belize, near the border with Guatemala, and encompasses lush jungle and the Maya Mountains. Here, the subtropical rainforest is home to howler monkeys, armadillos and superb birdlife. Within this region the Mountain Pine Ridge forests spread over an area dotted with azure pools, waterfalls, winding rivers and caves. Stay in a luxury lodge, such as **The Lodge at Chaa Creek** (see page 160) and explore the region by hiking, horse riding, cycling and canoeing, or visit ancient Mayan ruins.

## Southern Belize

#### Coastal reserves • Indigenous culture

The less-visited Toledo District in the far south is reached by a flight to the coastal town of Punta Gorda. Largely undeveloped and untouched by tourism, the region has a diverse cultural mix of Maya, Creole and Garifuna. Discover well-preserved rainforests, rivers, mangroves, coastal nature reserves and offshore islands, with opportunities for birding and wildlife spotting. Activities include hiking, boat trips, snorkelling, and visits to local Maya villages.

### Northern Belize

#### Remote location • Superb birdwatching

Northern Belize is home to the Orange Walk District and is known for its areas of dense jungle, farming communities and plantations, and is one of the country's greatest birdwatching destinations. There are several Mayan sites to explore; Altun Ha, a seventh-century ceremonial centre where Belize's famous jade head was discovered; and Lamanai, surrounded by rainforest and overlooking the New River Lagoon. The best way to experience this region is to stay in an authentic jungle lodge such as stylish Chan Chich Lodge or Lamanai Outpost.

## Beaches of Belize

#### Caribbean beaches • Barrier reef

The coastline of Belize is made up of pristine Caribbean white sand beaches fringed with coconut palms and idyllic coral cayes. The world's second largest barrier reef extends for more than 290 kilometres along the shoreline with endless snorkelling opportunities amongst colourful tropical fish and coral. Relaxed beach stays are possible on the islands of Ambergris Caye or Caye Caulker, or near the sleepy villages of Hopkins or Placencia on the mainland's south coast.

#### A suggested itinerary...

#### Rainforest, Reef & Ruins

12 days & 10 nights from £2,295 Category • Standard or Luxury

Explore Belize's key attractions including the lush rainforests of the interior and the soft sandy beaches of the Caribbean coast. Alternatively, combine a tour of Belize with neighbouring Guatemala and Mexico.

Day 1: Fly to Belize via the US
Overnight in the US. (N)
Days 2-4: Belize City • Cayo District
Drive to the Cayo District for 3 nights in
a jungle lodge. Optional tours to visit the

rainforest or the Mayan ruins of Caracol. (B) **Days 5-7: Placencia / Caye Caulker** 

Drive to Placencia in southern Belize for a relaxing 3-night stay. Optional excursions include snorkelling the Belize Barrier Reef and taking a sunset cruise. Alternatively, fly to Caye Caulker or the southern Toledo District. (B)

**Day 8: Fly to Ambergris Caye via Belize City** Fly to Belize City and on to Ambergris Caye, a tropical island paradise, for 3 nights. (B)

Days 9-10: Ambergris Caye

At leisure. (B)

Days 11-12: Fly home via Belize City & the US

Fly to Belize City and continue home, via the US. (B) (N)

**Standard Guideline Prices** (incl. flights) Low season from: £2,295 (May)

High season from: £2,395 (Jan – Mar)

**Luxury Guideline Prices** (incl. flights) Low season from: £2,795 (May) High season from: £3,145 (Jan – Mar)

Tour code: BZS / BZX



# Experiences in Belize



#### Caracol Mayan ruins, Cayo District

Located in the foothills of the Maya Mountains, remote Caracol is the largest archaeological site in Belize, sprawling across almost 200 sq km of high canopy jungle. Explore the ancient city's dwellings, plazas and royal tombs inscribed with intricate hieroglyphics. A climb up the Mayan pyramid Caana, or 'Sky Palace', offers spectacular views of crumbling temples rising among the lush vegetation.



#### Crooked Tree Wildlife Sanctuary, northern Belize

Consisting of a network of marshlands, lagoons and creeks, the Crooked Tree Wildlife Sanctuary is one of the best birdwatching spots in Central America. This unique habitat is home to howler monkeys, iguanas and crocodiles and an abundance of native and migratory birds, which congregate in their thousands in the dry season (Nov-May). Spot parrots, snail kites, spoonbills and the magnificent jabiru stork.



#### Cockscomb Basin Wildlife Sanctuary, near Placencia

The Cockscomb Basin Wildlife Sanctuary is home to one of the only jaguar conservation projects in the world. Lucky visitors may spot the elusive and stealthy cat, along with other wildlife such as pumas, ocelots, otters and coatimundi. Follow a series of trails through pristine jungle to discover exotic flora and learn about medicinal plants. End your hike with an invigorating swim in a hidden waterfall.



#### Barton Creek caves, Cayo District

Barton Creek is home to the largest river cave network in Belize, best explored on a canoe tour. Navigate through cave passages, granite and limestone chambers and marvel at spectacular rock and crystal formations. The ancient Maya believed that these mystical caves served as an entrance to the underworld, and remnants of ceremonial artefacts and sacrificial human remains can still be seen.



#### Punta Gorda chocolate & culture experience

The laid-back, culturally diverse fishing town of Punta Gorda in the far south offers an authentic insight into Belizean life. Stroll around the marina, listen to locals conversing in a range of dialects and dance to infectious Garifuna drumming music. The region is also recognised for its superior cacao bean production and it is possible to visit a cacao plantation or experience the annual chocolate festival in May.



#### Relax at Ambergris Caye

The largest island in Belize, Ambergris Caye, offers a range of understated luxurious beachfront properties outside the charming town of San Pedro. Running parallel to the barrier reef, it is also an ideal base from which to snorkel in pristine, sheltered waters. At Hol Chan, a natural break in the reef, it is possible to see a breathtaking array of marine life and colourful coral gardens.

# Discover El Salvador & Honduras

### Honduras

#### Mayan ruins of Copán • Tropical rainforest

The Mayan ruins of Copán, renowned for their remarkable sculptures and intricately carved stelae, are located close to the Guatemalan border in the west of the country. The Pico Bonito National Park contains lush rainforest, rivers and waterfalls and is near the Caribbean coast. Stay at **The Lodge & Spa at Pico Bonito** (see page 160) and explore the rainforest, home to abundant wildlife including more than 400 species of birds, or take a boat ride through the mangrove lagoons of Cuero y Salado, a coastal manatee and wildlife refuge. Also worth visiting are the Bay Islands, which offer excellent snorkelling, the colonial city of Comayagua, Pulhapanzak Falls and the picturesque Lake Yojoa for its array of birdlife.



Suchitoto cathedral, El Salvador

### C&K Recommends...

#### Copán, Honduras

The beautiful Mayan ruins at Copán are justly renowned for their intricately carved stelae, sculptures and the huge ball court, while underground tunnels offer the chance to see the facades of buried temples and cosmological stucco carvings. Combine with a visit to the atmospheric Hacienda San Lucas, set in the hills above Copán, for lunch and relaxation. Then take a walk to visit the tiny but interesting historic fertility site of Los Sapos.

#### Route of the Flowers, El Salvador

This scenic area is so named for the profusion of wild flowers and coffee plantations that bloom at certain times of year. Aside from the natural beauty of the volcanoes, lakes and cloud forest trails, the real charm lies in the small and traditional artisan towns, such as Ataco and Nahuizalco, that dot the route. Many have pre-Columbian origins and specialise in crafts such as woodwork and weaving, as well as offering restaurants and cafes that serve delicious local produce and coffee.



### El Salvador

#### Floral mountain scenery • Archaeological sites

One of the least visited countries in Central America, El Salvador is a real delight due to its welcoming people, amazing volcanic scenery and lack of tourists. Explore the charming colonial town of Suchitoto, with its beautiful architecture, cobbled streets and art galleries, and take a boat trip on the nearby lake. Visit a coffee plantation, learn about the history of the civil war, or explore the volcanoes, crater lakes, mountain national parks or Pacific coastline. Travel along the Route of the Flowers, a picturesque trail through floral mountain scenery, to visit small towns renowned for their handicrafts. Visit archaeological gems such as San Andrés, Tazumal and the Unesco-listed Joya de Cerén, the Pompeii of the Americas.



Copán, Honduras

# Central America suggested itineraries...



Lake Atitlán, Guatemala



Granada, Nicaragua



Copán, Honduras

#### **Mayan Triangle**

16 days & 14 nights from £3,595

This private journey combines a number of fascinating Mayan archaeological sites throughout Guatemala, Honduras and Belize with charming colonial towns, indigenous cultures and white sandy Caribbean beaches.

#### Day 1: Fly to Guatemala City • Antigua

Fly to Guatemala City and transfer to Antigua for 1 night. (N)

#### Days 2-3: Lake Atitlán

Drive to Lake Atitlán via the small Mayan ruins of Ixmiche. Option to take part in a traditional shaman ceremony. Enjoy a boat tour of the lake and surrounding villages. (B)

#### Days 4-5: Antigua

Visit Chichicastenango market (Thu & Sun) and return to Antigua for 2 nights. Take a walking tour of this picturesque colonial town and an optional visit to a local village to see how textiles are made. (B)

#### Days 6-7: Copan

Drive across Guatemala to Copán and the charming town of Copán Ruinas for a 2-night stay. Visit the Mayan ruins and add optional visits to see Los Sapos stone carvings with lunch at a former hacienda. (B)

#### Days 8-9: Tikal

Transfer to the Tikal area via the Mayan ruins of Quirigua. Stay 2 nights and explore the Tikal ruins. Optional sunset visit to Yaxha ruins. (B)

#### Days 10-11: Cayo District

Cross the border into Belize and transfer to the Cayo District for 2 nights. Stay at a jungle lodge and enjoy activities to explore the surrounding forest, lakes and waterfalls. Visit the Caracol ruins and Rio Frio caves. (B)

#### Days 12-14: Hopkins

Transfer to the coastal village of Hopkins for a 3-night beach stay. Soak up the rich Garifuna culture, relax by the turquoise Caribbean Sea or go snorkelling. (B)

Days 15-16: Fly home via the US (B) (N)

**Guideline Prices** (incl. flights) Low season from: £3,595 (May – Jun) High season from: £3,795 (Jan – Mar)

#### **Central America Explorer**

19 days & 17 nights from £4,495

Travel across Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua and El Salvador to discover a bounty of natural highlights, beautiful scenery and colonial towns, rounding off the journey in Antigua, the picturesque former capital of Guatemala.

#### Days 1-2: Fly to Panama City

Fly to Panama City for a 2-night stay. Tour the colonial old town and transit the canal. (B)

#### Days 3-4: Bocas del Toro

Fly to Bocas del Toro for 2 nights on the lush Caribbean coast. (B)

#### Day 5: Puerto Viejo

Cross the border into Costa Rica and transfer to the coastal town of Puerto Viejo. (B)

#### Days 6-7: Arenal

Transfer to Arenal and take optional tours to the hanging bridges or the hot springs. (B)

#### Days 8-9: El Castillo

Travel by road and boat across the border into Nicaragua and continue down San Juan river to El Castillo. Take an evening caiman tour or hike in the pristine Indio Maíz Reserve. (B, L, D)

#### Days 10-11: Fly to Ometepe island

Boat transfer to San Carlos and fly to the volcanic island of Ometepe, located in Lake Nicaragua, for a stay of 2 nights. (B)

#### Days 12-13: Granada

Travel by ferry and road to Granada for 2 nights. City tour and boat ride on Lake Nicaragua. (B) Days 14-15: Fly to San Salvador • Route of the Flowers

#### Transfer to Managua and fly to San Salvador, then continue to the Route of the Flowers via Joya de Ceren and Volcanoes National Park.

#### Days 16-17: Antigua

(B, L)

Travel by road to Antigua in Guatemala for a 2-night stay. Tour the historic town or optional visit to beautiful Lake Atitlán. (B)

Days 18-19: Fly home from Guatemala City via the US (B) (N)

**Guideline Prices** (incl. flights) Low season from: £4,495 (May) High season from: £4,595 (Jan – Mar)

#### **Back Roads of Central America**

15 days & 13 nights from £3,195

Travel through the less-visited Central American countries of Honduras, El Salvador and Nicaragua to discover colourful towns, a striking natural landscape of lakes and volcanoes, and the Mayan ruins of Copán.

#### Day 1: Fly to San Pedro Sula via the US Overnight in the US or San Pedro Sula. (N) Days 2-4: Copán

Transfer to Copán and take a guided tour of the Mayan ruins and visit Finca el Cisne, a family-run coffee and cardamom plantation and working cattle ranch. (B)

#### Days 5-6: El Salvador

Transfer by road to Concepción de Ataco in El Salvador. Explore the lakes and volcanoes of the scenic Route of the Flowers. (B)

#### **Day 7: Suchitoto**

Visit Joya de Cerén archaeological site and on to charming Suchitoto to explore the town. (B) Day 8: Perquín • La Union

Travel to the mountain town of Perquín. Visit the Museum of the Revolution and the village of El Mozote to learn about the civil war history. Overnight in La Union port. (B, L, D) Days 9-10: León

Travel by private boat across the Gulf of Fonseca to Nicaragua. Continue to the artistic colonial city of León and take a city tour, visiting the ruins of old León and the San Jacinto geothermal springs. (B)

#### Days 11-13: Juan Venado • Granada

Explore the mangroves of the Juan Venado Nature Reserve and continue to Granada. Morning nature hike around Mombacho volcano. Optional excursions include a visit to the Masaya volcano or a full-day trip to Ometepe island. (B)

#### Days 14-15: Fly home via the US

Transfer to Managua for a flight home via the US, arriving the next day. Alternatively, extend the trip with a stay on the Pacific coast. (B) (N)

**Guideline Prices** (incl. flights) Low season from: £3,195 (May – Jun) High season from: £3,295 (Jan – Mar)

# Splendours of Central America

**Duration** • 19 days & 17 nights **Category** • Standard

#### This group tour features...

- ❖ 3- & 4-star accommodation
- Flexible extensions & flight upgrades available
- Average group size 14 people (max 26)
- International & internal flights
- Transfers in air-conditioned vehicles
- Experienced local tour guide in each country
- 17 breakfasts & 5 lunches
- Guided sightseeing & entrance fees
- Porterage at airports

#### Weather

#### **Panama City**

	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	30	31	31	32	31	29	30	29	29	29	28	29
В	22	22	23	24	24	23	23	23	22	23	22	22
C	32	13	11	77	263	256	272	265	265	333	311	135

#### Antigua, Guatemala

	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Α	22	23	24	25	24	23	22	22	22	21	21	21
В	9	10	11	12	12	13	13	13	12	12	11	10
C	3	5	6	28	120	263	194	155	237	141	26	9

A: Maximum average temperature (C) B: Minimum average temperature (C) C: Average rainfall (mm)

#### Area map



**Group tour •** From £3,095 (incl. flights) **Private tour •** From £4,395 (incl. flights)

Take in the natural and cultural wonders of Central America, from tropical landscapes and volcanoes to colonial heritage and superb Mayan cities. Get an insight into the history of the civil war and colourful indigenous cultures, and learn about the amazing engineering feat that is the Panama Canal.

#### C&K Signature experiences

- Navigate through the locks of the Panama Canal
- Spot wildlife in the cloud forest & meet with early pioneers at Monteverde
- Take a boat ride on Lake Nicaragua
- Explore colonial towns & fascinating Mayan ruins, including Tikal & Copán

## Day 1: Fly to Panama City via Amsterdam or the US

Fly from London (regional connections available) to Panama City via Amsterdam or the US. Transfer to **Hilton Garden Inn** for 3 nights. (N)

#### Day 2: Panama City

Morning city tour, including the ruins of old Panama and the historic colonial district. (B)

#### Day 3: Panama Canal

Take a shared partial transit and cruise through the various locks of the Panama Canal. (B, L)

#### Day 4: Fly to San José, Costa Rica

Fly to Costa Rica's capital and visit a coffee plantation on the slopes of the active Poás volcano. Stay overnight at **Hotel Presidente.** (B, L)

#### Day 5: Monteverde

Transfer to Monteverde and stay for 2 nights at the **Monteverde Country Lodge**. Afternoon visit to the Selvatura's hummingbird garden and hanging walkways. (B)

#### Day 6: Monteverde

Morning visit to Monteverde cloud forest to see its rare flora and fauna. In the evening meet up with one of the early local pioneers for a fascinating conversation. (B)

#### Day 7: Granada, Nicaragua

Full-day journey across the border into Nicaragua to the city of Granada, overlooking Lake Nicaragua (approx 7-8 hours). Stay 2 nights at **Dario Hotel** (or similar). (B)

#### Day 8: Granada

Morning tour of the colonial city, including the Franciscan convent. Take a boat ride through the canals formed by the small islands in the lake, which is the tenth largest lake in the world. Afternoon at leisure or optional excursions. (B)

#### Day 9: Fly to San Salvador • Suchitoto

Transfer to Managua and fly to San Salvador. Continue to the charming town of Suchitoto for 1 night at **Casa 1800**. (B)

#### Day 10: Route of the Flowers

Explore the cobbled streets of Suchitoto, then transfer to the archaeological site of Joya de Ceren, known as the 'Pompeii of the Americas'. Later, explore cloud forest trails and enjoy spectacular volcano views on the picturesque Route of the Flowers. Overnight at Hotel Misión de Angeles. (B, L)

#### Day 11: Copán, Honduras

This morning visit the traditional artisan town of Ataco and stop at Santa Ana en route to Honduras (approx 10 hours). Stay at the **Hotel Marina Copán** for 2 nights. (B, L)

#### Day 12: Copán

In the morning, tour the fascinating Mayan ruins of Copán with its intricate and well-preserved sculptures. Optional afternoon tour to a bird sanctuary. (B)

#### Day 13: Livingston, Guatemala

Cross into Guatemala and on to the Caribbean coast, visiting the impressive carved stelae at Quirigua en route (approx 6 hours). Take a 1.5-hour boat ride along the coast to the town of Livingston, which has a strong Garifuna culture. Stay overnight at the **Hotel Villa Caribe**. (B)

#### Dav 14: Flores

A morning walking tour of Livingston, before taking a boat trip along the lush gorges of the Dulce river to visit Bird island and an indigenous community. Continue by road to the Flores area for a 2-night stay at the lakeside Villa Maya. (B)

#### Day 15: Tikal

Morning tour of Tikal, one of the most spectacular Mayan ruins, located in the heart of the jungle. Afternoon at leisure. (B, L)

#### Day 16: Fly to Guatemala City • Antigua

Early morning flight to Guatemala City and transfer to colonial Antigua for 2 nights at **Mesón de María.** Afternoon walking tour. (B)

#### Day 17: Antigua

Day at leisure or optional excursions. (B)



Tikal. Guatemala

#### Days 18-19: Fly to London via the US

Transfer to Guatemala City and fly to London via the US, arriving the next day. (B) (N)

Meal basis: As per itinerary - B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner, N: No meals.

#### **Extensions**

#### Tour + Lake Atitlán

4 days & 2 nights from £495 Tour code: GCAATI

Extend your tour with a visit to picturesque Lake Atitlán, a sapphire-blue lake surrounded by hills, volcanoes, traditional indigenous Mayan villages and market towns.

#### Day 18: Lake Atitlán

Transfer by road to Lake Atitlán. Afternoon boat trip to visit local villages. Stay 2 nights at Hotel Atitlán. (B)

#### Day 19: Lake Atitlán

Morning visit to Chichicastenango market. (B) Days 20-21: Fly to London via the US

Transfer to Guatemala City and fly to London, via the US, arriving the following day. (B) (N)

#### **Tour + Belize**

5 days & 3 nights from £995 Tour code: GCABZE

Ambergris Caye lies off the coast of Belize, surrounded by the turquoise Caribbean Sea. Relax on white sandy beaches or swim in calm, clear waters.

#### Day 18: Fly to Belize via Flores

Fly to Belize City, via Flores and on to Ambergris Caye. Stay for 3 nights at the Portofino Hotel (beach cabaña). Upgrade to Victoria House Resort & Spa from £125. (B) Days 19-20: Ambergris Caye

At leisure by the beach or snorkel in the coral

Days 21-22: Fly to London via Belize City & the US (B) (N)

#### Important information

Locally escorted tour: This tour is led in each country by an experienced local tour guide.

Standard tour: This tour includes some long road journeys and is based in 3- and 4-star hotels where rooms may vary. A flexible approach is recommended for travel in Central America.

Private & tailor-made travel: This itinerary can be taken privately on a date that suits you, for which guideline prices are shown. Alternatively, it can be tailored to your exact requirements. Please call 020 3627 3097 or visit CoxandKings.co.uk/make-an-enquiry

#### **Guideline prices for 2020-21**

#### Group tour

Low season from £3.095 Guide price months: Nov

High season from £3,195 Guide price months: Jan - Mar

Single supplement from £695

#### Private travel

Low season from £4,395 Guide price months: Sep

High season from £4,495 Guide price months: Jan - Mar

Single supplement on request

The guideline high season prices may be significantly lower than the peak season prices (20 Dec – 04 Jan)

#### KLM / Air France flight upgrades

Premium Economy from £395 return World Business Class from £1,095 return

#### Regional air connections

Prices on request. KLM/Air France to/from Aberdeen, Belfast, Bristol, Cardiff, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Manchester, Newcastle and Southampton.

The guideline tour prices are all per person in UK pounds, based on two people sharing a twin / double room. For current prices for all departure dates, including special offers when applicable, please call 020 3627 3097 or visit CoxandKings.co.uk. All prices are subject to availability.

#### Departure dates for 2020-21

Out (Wed) Rtn (Sun) 22 Jan 20 09 Feb 20 12 Feb 20 01 Mar 20 Out (Wed) Rtn (Sun) 04 Mar 20 22 Mar 20 04 Nov 20 22 Nov 20

Out (Wed) Rtn (Sun) 20 Jan 21 07 Feb 21 10 Feb 21 28 Feb 21

Out (Wed) Rtn (Sun) 03 Mar 21 21 Mar 21

Tour code: GCA

# Central America Hotels

This is a selection of our recommended accommodation. Please see our website for more options.

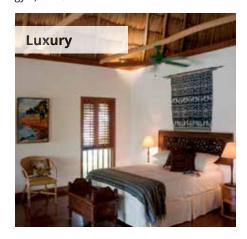


#### American Trade Hotel, Panama City

The American Trade Hotel is situated in a beautifully restored historic building in the Casco Viejo, Panama City's colonial old town. This stylish and elegant boutique property features 50 light and airy rooms and suites with dark hardwood floors, some with balconies or floor-to-ceiling windows. There is a signature restaurant, library and jazz bar, while city views can be enjoyed from the rooftop pool and sun terrace.

#### Features:

50 rooms, restaurant, jazz bar, swimming pool, gym, Wi-Fi.



#### Turtle Inn, Belize

Owned by Francis Ford Coppola, Turtle Inn is located close to the fishing village of Placencia. The hideaway property is an ideal base to explore nearby areas or relax on the palm-fringed beach. Luxurious Balinese-style cabanas, each with a private deck, are dotted throughout the tropical gardens, and some offer sea views. Traditional Belizean recipes are served in the restaurant and beachfront grill.

#### Features:

25 rooms, 3 restaurants, 2 bars, 2 swimming pools, wine cellar, spa, Wi-Fi.



#### Isla Palenque, Panama

Spread over 400 acres of lush jungle in the Chiriqui Gulf, this exclusive private island resort provides a luxurious blend of a paradisal beachfront setting with an immersive rainforest experience. Stay in the six-bedroomed villa or one of the eight casitas dotted throughout the vegetation, offering complete privacy from each other. They feature elegant furnishings, open-air living areas and private gardens with hammocks.

#### Features:

14 rooms, restaurant, spa, infinity pool, yoga deck, Wi-Fi.



#### The Lodge at Chaa Creek, Belize

Set within tropical gardens on the banks of the Macal river, The Lodge at Chaa Creek provides a perfect combination of comfort and a unique rainforest experience. Each of the palm-thatched cottages has a spacious sun deck veranda, allowing guests to interact with the surrounding nature. The cuisine features a mixture of Caribbean, Mexican and Belizean dishes served in the alfresco restaurant.

#### Features:

23 cottages, restaurant, bar, spa, butterfly sanctuary, infinity outdoor pool.



#### Victoria House Resort & Spa, Ambergris Caye, Belize

Victoria House overlooks an idyllic beach, next to the second largest coral reef in the world. Set among swaying palms and tropical gardens, the ambience is one of barefoot luxury. Plantation-style rooms, casitas and suites feature mahogany furniture and cool white linens. There are two beautiful pools, a spa and fitness centre. Dining is informal, with a mix of Belizean and international cuisine on offer.

#### Features:

42 rooms, restaurant, bar, 2 swimming pools, spa, Wi-Fi.



## The Lodge & Spa at Pico Bonito, Honduras

The Lodge & Spa at Pico Bonito sits amid one of Central America's largest unexplored rainforests, against a backdrop of the Nombre de Dios mountains. Set among lush gardens, the individual cabañas are decorated with Honduran pottery and weavings, each with a decked terrace. Private rainforest trails around the lodge meander past waterfalls and rivers.

#### Features:

22 rooms, swimming pool, restaurant, spa,

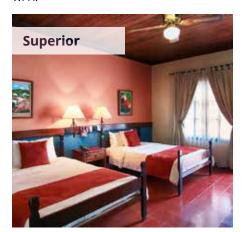


#### La Lancha, Tikal, Guatemala

This exclusive resort, created by Francis Ford Coppola, overlooks Lake Petén Itzá and is close to the Mayan ruins of Tikal. The property is tucked away in the rainforest, home to parakeets, toucans and howler monkeys. From the main lodge, paths lead to the secluded guest casitas, brightly decorated with wooden furnishings, native art and textiles. Each features a terrace with a hammock, offering views of the rainforest or lake.

#### Features:

10 rooms, restaurant, swimming pool, jacuzzi, Wi-Fi.



#### Marina Copán, Honduras

Overlooking the central plaza in the charming town of Copán Ruinas, the Hotel Marina Copán was named in honour of Doña Marina Welchez, and built on the site of her family home in 1945 as Copán's first hotel. The characterful property is designed in a classic colonial style with brick archways, terracotta roofs and pretty interior gardens and fountains. Rooms are decorated in warm colours with local artwork.

#### Features:

50 rooms, restaurant, bar, swimming pool, spa, Wi-Fi.



#### Hotel Atitlán, Panajachel, Guatemala

Hotel Atitlan is set on a picturesque ancient coffee plantation on the shores of Lake Atitlán with spectacular views of both the lake and the surrounding volcanoes. Individually designed rooms are traditionally furnished with locally handcrafted furniture and hand-woven Mayan textiles, and have balconies with lake views. The hotel features beautifully maintained botanical gardens with over 600 species of plants.

#### Features:

65 rooms, restaurant, swimming pool, botanical garden, Wi-Fi.



#### Dario Hotel, Granada, Nicaragua

Dario Hotel is a charming property located on a pedestrian-only street in Granada's historic centre, with views of the cathedral and the Mombacho volcano. The neo-classical building has a white and pale green facade, wooden staircases and patterned tiled floors. Its comfortable guestrooms are set around lush, plant-filled courtyards. The Tranvia restaurant offers Nicaraguan cuisine.

#### Features:

22 rooms, restaurant, cafe, outdoor swimming pool, Wi-Fi.



#### El Mesón de María, Antigua, Guatemala

Located in a charming house in the centre of historic Antigua, El Mesón de María offers plenty of colonial character. This intimate property features a central courtyard and terraces on which to relax and appreciate the views of the old town and surrounding volcanic scenery. The rooms are each decorated in warm tones with traditional furnishings and local crafts.

#### Features:

20 rooms, dining room, courtyard, sun terrace, Wi-Fi.



#### Yemaya Island Hideaway & Spa, Nicaragua

Yemaya Island Hideaway & Spa is a beautiful boutique property set on sleepy Little Corn Island. The contemporary oceanfront cabanas are within walking distance to the beach and each has a terrace and seating area. A selection of spa treatments or different waterbased activities are organised by the hotel. Meals are served in the beachfront restaurant.

#### Features:

16 rooms, restaurant, beach bar, spa, yoga studio, Wi-Fi.

# **Booking Conditions**

Our full booking conditions apply to all bookings you make with us. These appear on our website at www.coxandkings.co.uk and can also be provided by post or e-mail on request. Due to space constraints, the following booking conditions contain only some of the terms and conditions (which may also be a summary) which apply to your booking. Before you make your booking, you must read our full booking conditions. By seeking confirmation of your booking, we are entitled to assume that you have done so and accept the full booking conditions as the basis for your contract with C&K Luxury Travel Limited, a company registered in England & Wales with company number 12316055 and registered office address of St George's House, Ambrose Street, Cheltenham, GL50 3LG ('Cox & Kings', 'we', 'our' or 'us'). In these booking conditions, 'you' and 'your' means all persons named on the booking or any of them as applicable (including anyone who is added or substituted at a later date).

#### 1) YOUR CONTRACT

Where you book a package holiday, your contract will be with Cox & Kings. When you make a booking the person who makes the booking guarantees that they have the authority to accept and do accept on behalf of your party these booking conditions.

#### 2) BOOKING, PAYMENT AND CONFIRMATION

(a) Full information as to how to make a booking is shown on our website. A minimum deposit of £250 per person or 15% of your total holiday cost, whichever is greater, must be paid at the time of booking. For some holidays, a higher deposit will be payable or it may be necessary to make full payment at the time of booking. This is usually the case where full payment for certain services, such as your flight, has to be made immediately after your booking is confirmed in order to secure that service or the price quoted at the time of booking. Where full payment is required at the time of booking, 100% cancellation charges will also apply from confirmation of booking in the event that you subsequently cancel.

(b) Where you book over the telephone and we are in a position to confirm your booking, a binding contract between you and Cox & Kings will come into existence when we verbally confirm your booking. All other bookings will be confirmed and a binding contract will come into existence when we issue a confirmation invoice. Please note, though, that if you book private travel arrangements or an extension to a group tour, your accommodation, flights etc will only be requested by us once the payment due at the time of booking has been received. Your confirmation invoice will indicate your requested package cost and you will be advised of any accommodation, flights etc that are still on request and not confirmed at the time the confirmation invoice is issued.

(c) If your confirmed booking includes a flight, we (or if you booked via an authorised agent of ours, that agent) will issue you with an ATOL Certificate. (d) It is your responsibility to check the confirmation invoice, ATOL Certificate and any other documents we send you carefully and to let us or your travel agent know immediately in the event of any error or inaccuracy, as it may not be possible to make changes later.

(e) The balance of your holiday cost is payable not less than 90 days prior to departure, unless you are informed otherwise. If all payments are not received on time, we are entitled to assume you wish to cancel. Cancellation charges will apply in accordance with clause 9(a). If we do not cancel straightaway because you promise to make payment, you must pay the cancellation charges shown in clause 9(a) depending on the date we reasonably treat your booking as cancelled by you. (f) Travel documents will be provided as referred to in our full booking conditions.

(g) Prices include all government taxes in the amount applicable at the time of booking that do not have to be paid locally. Those that have to be paid locally by you are extra and are your responsibility (such as international airport departure tax or local resort taxes).

## 3) REDUCED MOBILITY / MEDICAL CONDITIONS / DISABILITIES / SPECIAL REQUESTS

The information you are provided with about your holiday before you make your booking will include a general indication of the suitability of the holiday for someone with reduced mobility. However, reduced mobility means different things to different individuals as individual capabilities, restrictions and requirements are likely to vary considerably. If you suffer from restricted mobility or have any disability or medical condition which may affect your holiday arrangements, please give us full details before booking so that we can provide you with precise information as to the suitability of the holiday taking into account your needs. We may ask you to confirm full details in writing. Please promptly inform us in writing in the event that any material change in your mobility, any disability or medical condition occurs after your booking has been confirmed. We will deal with special requests and information relating to any disability, medical condition or reduced mobility as referred to in our full booking conditions. Special requirements we have accepted will be specifically confirmed as accepted on your confirmation invoice.

#### 4) YOUR TRAVEL AGENT

For flight inclusive bookings, all monies paid to any authorised travel agent of ours for your holiday with us will be held on behalf of and for the benefit of the Trustees of the Air Travel Trust subject to the travel agent's obligation to pay such monies to us in accordance with our trading terms unless we fail. In the unlikely event of our financial failure, all monies then held by the travel agent or subsequently paid by you to the travel agent will be held by the agent on behalf of and for the benefit of the Trustees of the Air Travel Trust without any obligation on the agent to pay such monies to us.

#### 5) INSURANCE

It is a condition of booking that you have adequate insurance for your holiday. Further information on this requirement is shown in our full booking conditions

#### 6) ALTERATION BY YOU

(a) If you wish to make any amendments to your holiday after it has been confirmed (including where you wish to transfer your place on the booking to someone else), you must inform us in writing and we will do our best to help. An

amendment fee of £35 together with the costs and charges incurred as a result or, for certain alterations, cancellation charges, will be payable. Please see our full booking conditions for further information.

(b) If you wish to change any aspect of your holiday after it has commenced, we and our agents will do their best to assist, subject to payment locally of all applicable charges and costs.

(c) If you wish to transfer your place on your booking to another person (introduced by you), you may do so, subject to compliance with the following conditions:

- Provided the person to whom you are transferring your place satisfies all conditions applicable to the holiday; which form part of your contract with us.
- Requests for a transfer must be made in writing at least 7 days prior to departure and must be accompanied by the name and other applicable details of the person who will replace you.
- In the event that the balance of the holiday cost is due but has not been paid when the transfer request is made, this must be paid before the transfer can be made. Any additional payment amount that our suppliers require to effect the change (if the transfer can be made) will be payable. Please note, in some cases suppliers such as airlines treat name changes as a cancellation, levying cancellation charges and requiring payment for a new ticket. These charges must be paid by you before any change can be made.
- The transferee agrees to these Booking Conditions and all other terms of the contract

You and the transferee remain jointly and severally liable for payment of all sums. If you are unable to find a replacement, cancellation charges as set out in clause 9 will apply in order to cover our estimated costs. Otherwise, no refunds will be given for passengers not travelling or for unused services.

## 7) PRE-DEPARTURE CHANGES TO, OR CANCELLATION OF, YOUR ARRANGEMENTS BY US

(a) Pre-departure Changes

Changes to confirmed holiday arrangements sometimes have to be made and we reserve the right to do so at any time. Most changes will be insignificant and we have the right to make these. Where an insignificant change is made before departure, we will notify you in writing. No compensation is payable for insignificant changes. Insignificant changes are likely to include (but are not limited to) (1) changes to any destination(s), place(s) of stay or port(s) or place(s) of call for your holiday which is not a major, confirmed destination, place of stay or port or place of call and (2) substitution of a named lecturer and / or leader for another knowledgeable expert in the same field. Occasionally, before departure, we may have to make a significant change to any of the main characteristics of the travel services which form part of your confirmed booking or to any special requirements which we have accepted as referred to in clause 3. Examples of significant changes can be found in our full Booking Conditions. In the event that we have to make a significant

change, we will provide you with the following information in writing as soon as possible: (i) the proposed alteration(s) and any impact they have on the price; (ii) in the event that you do not wish to accept the alteration(s), details of any substitute package we are able to offer (and any price reduction where this is of a lower quality or cost); (iii) your entitlement to cancel your booking and receive a full refund if you do not want to accept the alteration(s) or any substitute package offered; and (iv) the period within which you must inform us of your decision and what will happen if you don't do so.

If you choose to cancel your booking, we will refund all payments you have made to us within 14 days of the date we receive your written cancellation. If we don't hear from you with your decision within the specified period (having provided you with the above mentioned information for a second time), we will cancel your booking and refund all payments made to us within 14 days of our doing so. No compensation will be payable or other liability accepted where a change results from Force Majeure (see clause 8).

(b) Pre-departure Cancellation Occasionally, it may be necessary to cancel confirmed holiday arrangements and we reserve the right to do so. In the event: (i) we are prevented from performing your contracted holiday arrangements as a result of Force Majeure (see clause 8) and we notify you of this as soon as reasonably possible; or (ii) we have to cancel because the number of persons who have booked the holiday on which you are travelling is smaller than the minimum number applicable to the holiday as stated in the contract and you are notified of the cancellation not less than 8 weeks before departure; we have the right to terminate your contract. In this situation, we will refund all monies you have paid to us within 14 days of the date we inform you of the cancellation but will have no further or other liability to you including in respect of compensation or any costs or expenses you incur or have incurred. All group holidays, except those labelled as 'non-exclusive', require a minimum number of bookings before they will operate. We will inform you of cancellation for lack of minimum numbers as set out above.

#### 8) FORCE MAJEURE

For the purposes of these Booking Conditions, Force Maieure means any event beyond our or our supplier's control, the consequences of which could not have been avoided even if all reasonable measures had been taken. Examples include warfare and acts of terrorism (and threat thereof), civil strife, significant risks to human health such as the outbreak of serious disease at the travel destination or natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes or weather conditions which make it impossible to travel safely to the travel destination or remain at the travel destination, the act of any government or other national or local authority including port or river authorities, industrial dispute, labour strikes, lock closure, natural or nuclear disaster, fire, chemical or biological disaster, unavoidable technical problems with transport, airport, port or airspace closures, restrictions or congestion and flight restrictions imposed by any regulatory authority or other third party and all similar events outside our or the supplier(s) concerned's control. Except where otherwise expressly stated in these Booking Conditions, we have no liability including for compensation, costs and expenses in such situations.

#### 9) CANCELLATION BY YOU

(a) You may cancel your confirmed holiday booking at any time prior to departure. Should you wish to do so, you must notify us or your travel agent (as applicable) in writing. Such notification will only be effective on receipt by us or the travel agent (as applicable).

Cancellation charges will apply as set out below unless you are otherwise advised at the time of booking. In calculating these cancellation charges, we have taken account of possible cost savings and the generation of income from other bookings which may be able to utilise cancelled services to the extent this is likely to be achievable for tailormade holiday arrangements. For some bookings, including those for which full payment is required at the time of booking, 100% cancellation charges apply from confirmation of your booking. Where the cancellation charge is shown as a percentage, this is calculated on the basis of the total cost payable by the person(s) cancelling, excluding any visa charges and amendment charges which are not refundable.

Days before Amount of departure cancellation charges notification as a % of total received holiday cost More than Deposit(s) (inc any 90 days higher deposit) 90-29 days 50% or deposit(s) if higher 28-15 days 90% 14-0 days 100%

No allowance or refund can be made for meals, rooms, excursions etc included in the price of your holiday but not taken, nor can any refund be made for services that cannot be used due to lost, mislaid or destroyed travel tickets or vouchers. Part cancellation of a booking may result in increased costs for the remaining party members. (b) Cancellation charges will not be applicable in the event that unavoidable and extraordinary circumstances occur in the place of destination of your holiday or its immediate vicinity which significantly affect the performance of the contracted holiday services or the carriage of passengers to that destination and as a result you notify us in writing prior to departure that you wish to cancel your holiday. In this situation, we will refund all monies you have paid to us within 14 days of the date you notify us in writing of your cancellation but will have no further or other liability to you including in respect of compensation or any costs or expenses you incur or have incurred. Please note that your right to cancel in these circumstances will only apply where the Foreign and Commonwealth Office advises against travel to your destination or its immediate vicinity. For the purposes of this clause, "unavoidable and extraordinary circumstances" means warfare, acts of terrorism, significant risks to human health such as the outbreak of serious disease at the travel destination or natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes or weather conditions which make it impossible to travel safely to the travel destination.

#### 10) PRICES

Where your contract is with Cox & Kings, once the price of your chosen holiday has been confirmed at the time of booking, it will not change. We reserve the right to make changes to, and correct errors in, advertised prices at any time before your holiday is confirmed. Occasionally our holiday prices are discounted for a limited period for promotional purposes. Discounts cannot be

applied retrospectively to reduce the price of a confirmed booking.

#### 11) YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

(a) British Foreign & Commonwealth Travel Advice: The UK government provides advice on safety and security, entry requirements and health for countries around the world, as well as general information, at www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice and https://travelaware.campaign.gov.uk/. You are strongly recommended to read the advice about the country you are planning to visit prior to booking. You should also revisit the advice regularly prior to your departure as it may change frequently. It is possible to sign-up to receive FCO e-mail updates for your destination so you are aware of any changes to advice they issue and it is recommended you do this.

(b) Visas: General information concerning visa requirements applicable is set out in our Documents & Health section. Please also see our full booking conditions for further information. (c) Passports: A full passport (valid for at least six months beyond the end of your holiday) is required for the holidays we offer. Please see our Documents & Health section for full details or seek the advice of our travel consultants. Requirements may change and you must check the up-to-date requirements in good time before departure. A British citizen's passport presently takes approximately three to six weeks to obtain. See our full booking conditions for further information. (d) Health: It is your responsibility to ensure you are aware of all recommended and required vaccinations and health precautions in good time before departure. See our full booking conditions for further information.

(e) Documents: It is the responsibility of the person who makes the booking to ensure that all members of the party are in possession of all necessary travel and health documents and have all necessary vaccination certificates before departure.

#### 12) OUR LIABILITY

(i) We will accept responsibility for the arrangements we agree to provide or arrange for you as an "organiser" under the Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangements Regulations 2018, as set out below and as such, we are responsible for the proper provision of all travel services included in your package, as set out in your confirmation invoice. Subject to these Booking Conditions, if we or our suppliers negligently perform or arrange those services and we don't remedy or resolve your complaint within a reasonable period of time, and this has affected the enjoyment of your package holiday you may be entitled to an appropriate price reduction or compensation or both. You must inform us without undue delay of any failure to perform or improper performance of the travel services included in this package. The level of any such price reduction or compensation will be calculated taking into consideration all relevant factors such as but not limited to: following the complaints procedure as described in these Booking Conditions and the extent to which ours or our employees' or suppliers' negligence affected the overall enjoyment of your holiday. Please note that it is your responsibility to show that we or our supplier(s) have been negligent if you wish to make a claim against us.

(ii) We will not be responsible for any injury, illness, death, loss (including loss of possessions or enjoyment), damage, expense, cost or other sum or claim of any nature whatsoever which results from any of the following: (1) the act(s) and / or omission(s) of the person(s) affected; or (2)

the act(s) and / or omission(s) of a third party not connected with the provision of your holiday and which were unforeseeable or unavoidable; or (3) Force Majeure as defined in clause 8.

(iii) We cannot accept responsibility for any services that do not form part of our contract with you. This includes, for example, any additional services or facilities that your hotel, cruise provider or any other supplier agrees to provide for you where the services or facilities are not advertised in our brochure or on our website as forming part of your holiday and we have not agreed to arrange them as part of our contract, and any excursion / activities you purchase while away.

(iv) Except as set out in clause 12(v), no limitation on the amount of damages which can be claimed will apply in respect of personal injury or death which we or our employees have caused intentionally or negligently or in respect of any other liability which we cannot limit under English law. For all claims concerning or arising out of loss of, delay and / or damage to any luggage or personal possessions (including money) for which we are liable, the maximum amount we will have to pay you is an amount equivalent to the excess on your insurance policy which applies to this type of loss per person in total because you are required to have adequate insurance in place to cover any losses of this kind, unless a different limitation applies to your claim under clause 12(vi) below. For all other claims, if we are found liable to you on any basis, the maximum amount we will have to pay you is up to three times the total price of your holiday unless a lower limitation applies to your claim under clause 12(v) below.

(v) Where any claim or part of a claim (including those involving death or personal injury) concerns or is based on any travel arrangements (including the process of getting on and / or off the transport concerned) provided by any air, rail or sea carrier to which any international convention or EU regulation applies, our liability (including the maximum amount of compensation we will have to pay you, the types of claim and the circumstances in which compensation will be payable) will be limited as if we were the carrier in question as referred to below. The most we will have to pay you for that claim or that part of a claim if we are found liable to you on any basis is the most the carrier concerned would have to pay under the international convention or EU regulation that applies to the travel arrangements in question (for example, the Warsaw Convention as amended or unamended and the Montreal Convention for international travel by air and / or, for airlines with an operating licence granted by an EU country, the EC Regulation on Air Carrier Liability No 889/2002 for national and international travel by air. EC Regulation 392/2009 on the liability of carriers of passengers in the event of accidents and / or the Athens Convention (as amended by the 2002 Protocol) for international carriage by sea and the Convention of 1980 concerning International Travel by Rail (COTIF) as amended for travel by rail). Where a carrier would not be obliged to make any payment to you under the applicable international convention or EU regulation (including where any claim is not notified and issued in accordance with the time limits stipulated in the applicable convention or regulation), we similarly are not obliged to make a payment to you for that claim or part of the claim. Please also note that strict time limits apply for notifying loss, damage or delay of luggage to the airline. Any proceedings in respect of any claim (including one for personal

injury or death) must be brought within 2 years of the date stipulated in the applicable convention or regulation. You are not entitled to make any claim against us which concerns or is based on any travel arrangements provided by any air, rail or sea carrier if such a claim is not expressly permitted to be brought against the carrier by the international convention or regulation that applies to the travel arrangements in question. When making any payment, we will deduct any payment that you have received or are entitled to receive from the carrier for the complaint or claim in question. Copies of the applicable international conventions and regulations are available from us on request. (vi) We cannot accept any liability for any damage, loss, expense or other sum(s) of any description (1) which on the basis of the information given to us by you concerning your booking prior to our accepting it, we could not reasonably have foreseen you would suffer or incur if we breached our contract with you or (2) which did not result from any breach of contract or other fault by ourselves or our employees or, where we are responsible for them, our suppliers. Additionally we cannot accept liability for any expenses or losses that relate to or arise from any business (including without limitation, self-employed loss of earnings), or any indirect or consequential loss of any kind.

(vii) Where it is impossible for you to return to your departure point as per the agreed return date of your package, due to "unavoidable and extraordinary circumstances", we shall provide you with any necessary accommodation (where possible, of a comparable standard) for a period not exceeding 3 nights per person. Please note that the 3-night cap does not apply to persons with reduced mobility, pregnant women or unaccompanied minors, nor to persons needing specific medical assistance, provided we have been notified of these particular needs at least 48 hours before the start of your holiday. For the purposes of this clause, "unavoidable and extraordinary circumstances" mean warfare, acts of terrorism, significant risks to human health such as the outbreak of serious disease at the travel destination or natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes or weather conditions which make it impossible to travel safely back to your departure point.

#### 13) TRANSPORTATION (INCLUDING DELAY)

(a) Air, rail, road and other departure times are supplied by the carriers. Please see our full booking conditions for details of our responsibility in the event of delay.

(b) If your flight is cancelled or delayed, your flight ticket is downgraded or boarding is denied by your airline, depending on the circumstances, the airline may be required to pay you compensation, refund the cost of your flight and / or provide you with accommodation and / or refreshments under EC Regulation No 261/2004 (denied boarding and flight disruption). Please see our full booking conditions for further information.

#### 14) COMPLAINTS AND PROBLEMS

If you have a complaint about any of the holiday arrangements booked with or through Cox & Kings, you must follow the complaint procedure set out in our full booking conditions.

#### 15) FINANCIAL SECURITY

The Package Travel and Linked Travel
Arrangements 2018 require us to provide security
for the monies that you pay for the package
holidays booked with us and for your repatriation
in the event of our insolvency. We provide this
security for our flight-inclusive holidays by way of
our Air Travel Organiser's Licence (ATOL) (number

11747) administered by the Civil Aviation Authority. When you buy an ATOL protected flight or flightinclusive package from us, you will receive an ATOL Certificate. This lists what is financially protected, where you can get information on what this means for you and who to contact if things go wrong. We, or the suppliers identified on your ATOL Certificate, will provide you with the services listed on the ATOL Certificate (or a suitable alternative). In some cases, where neither we nor the supplier are able to do so for reasons of insolvency, an alternative ATOL holder may provide you with services you have bought or a suitable alternative (at no extra cost to you). You agree to accept that in those circumstances the alternative ATOL holder will perform those obligations and you agree to pay any money outstanding to be paid by you under your contract to that alternative ATOL holder. However, you also agree that in some cases it will not be possible to appoint an alternative ATOL holder, in which case you will be entitled to make a claim under the ATOL scheme (or your credit card issuer where applicable). If we, or the suppliers identified on your ATOL certificate, are unable to provide the services listed (or a suitable alternative, through an alternative ATOL holder or otherwise) for reasons of insolvency, the Trustees of the Air Travel Trust may make a payment to (or confer a benefit on) you under the ATOL scheme. You agree that in return for such a payment or benefit, you assign absolutely to those Trustees any claims which you have or may have arising out of or relating to the non-provision of the services, including any claim against us, the travel agent or your credit card issuer where applicable. You also agree that any such claims may be re-assigned to another body, if that other body has paid sums you have claimed under the ATOL scheme. The price of our flight-inclusive holiday packages includes the amount of £2.50 per person which is the ATOL Protection Contribution (APC) we pay to the CAA. This charge is included in our advertised prices. For further information, visit the ATOL website at: www.atol.org.uk.

We provide full financial protection for our package holidays which don't include flights, by way of a bond held by ABTA Ltd, The Travel Association 30 Park Street London SE1 9EQ www.abta.co.uk.

#### 16) LAW AND JURISDICTION

Your relationship (and any contract you may have) with us and any dispute, claim or other matters of any nature arising from it ('claim') shall be governed by and construed in accordance with English law. We both agree that any claim (and whether or not involving any personal injury) that arises between us must be dealt with under the ABTA arbitration scheme (if the scheme is available for the claim in question and you wish to use it) or by the Courts of England and Wales only unless, in the case of Court proceedings, you live in Scotland or Northern Ireland. In this case, proceedings must either be brought in the Courts of your home country or those of England and Wales. If proceedings are brought in Scotland or Northern Ireland, you may choose to have your contract and any dispute, claim or other matter of any description that arises between us governed by the law of Scotland / Northern Ireland as applicable (but if you do not so choose, English law will apply).

#### 17) DATA PROTECTION

Please see our Privacy Policy for further information on how we process your personal data: www.coxandkings.co.uk/data-protection.

**DATE OF ISSUE: DECEMBER 2019** 

## Insurance

Travel insurance is an important part of any booking. Cox & Kings requires that everyone who books with us has travel insurance which includes cover for all activities featured as part of their trip at the time of booking. If you have not already arranged appropriate cover, our recommended travel insurance provider is Campbell Irvine.

To arrange cover or to obtain a quotation, please contact Campbell Irvine.

You can apply for travel insurance online at: www.affiliate.campbellirvinedirect.com/coxandkings

Or call: 01702 427 236



Blue-and-yellow macaw, Brazil

#### **IMPORTANT**

This is only a summary of cover; full details of the cover provided are shown on your policy document. You will be asked to read it carefully to ensure you are happy with the cover provided which is offered on a non-advised basis from a single insurer.

A copy of the policy document is available for download online at affiliate.campbellirvinedirect.com/coxandkings. The policy contains a 21-day cooling off period and details of how to make a claim and who to contact in the event of a medical emergency.

The policy includes certain terms and conditions, exclusions and excesses. In particular cover is excluded for any defined pre-existing medical condition from which you or any person upon whom travel depends are suffering. If in doubt please contact the insurer's medical helpline as additional cover may be purchased directly from the insurer's medical screening helpline for certain pre-existing medical conditions.

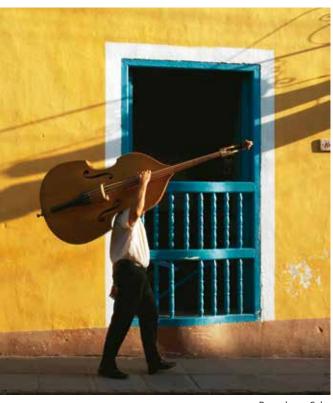
An additional premium applies to any person **aged 66 to 74 years** at the date of payment of the insurance premium. The appropriate premium will be quoted on application. This insurance is **not** available to any person **aged 75 years or more** at the date of payment of insurance premium unless agreed in writing. If you are aged 75 or older, the charity Age Co, formerly Age UK, offers a travel insurance policy. You can find details at ageco.org.uk/insurance/travel-insurance.

Cox & Kings is an Introducer Appointed Representative of Campbell Irvine Ltd. who is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. This can be checked on the FCA's register by visiting the FCA's website at fca.org.uk or by contacting them on 0800 111 6787.

## TRAVEL INSURANCE SUMMARY OF COVER (SUMS INSURED ARE PER INSURED PERSON)

BENEFIT	LIMIT
A. Medical expenses	£10,000,000
Diagnostic tests	£10,000
In patient benefit	£10 per day up to £300
Criminal injuries	£100 per day up to £5,000
B. Personal liability	£2,000,000
C. Personal accident	£25,000
D. Cancellation or curtailment	£3,000*
E. Delayed departure or arrival	
Either compensation up to	£100
OR cancellation after	
8 hours up to	£2,000
Hijack of aircraft	£100 per day up to £3,000
Interruption of transport	£300
F. Personal effects	£2,000
	(Valuables limited to £350)
	(Single article limit £250)
	(Disc collections £200)
Temporary loss of baggage	£100
Money	£500
Tickets	£1,000
Passport and visas	£250
G. Legal expenses	£50,000
H. Winter sports	Optional

<sup>\*</sup>Cancellation cover may be increased when you apply.



Bass player, Cuba

## Travel in Latin America

At Cox & Kings, we believe that a good holiday is not luck, but judgement. We have compiled the following information to outline the nature of travel in Latin America and to help you prepare for your holiday. However, even with the most meticulous planning, minor problems can occur and, while our local representatives are always on hand to rectify such occurrences, we do request that you have a patient and broadminded approach to travelling in Latin America.

#### **Flights**

International flights: On most of our tours, the following carriers will be used: British Airways, KLM, Iberia, Avianca, LATAM, United Airlines, Virgin Atlantic and Air France. The name of the airline and the city of the departure and arrival airports are listed in the tour itineraries, together with the stopoff airport, should this apply. Services are classified as direct when there is no aeroplane change involved. Please note, direct scheduled services are only available between the UK and Argentina, Peru, Chile, Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, Costa Rica and Mexico. For all other destinations, flights are indirect.

Internal flights: Many countries within Latin America have their own air pass and, wherever possible, our tours will be constructed with the appropriate one, which will minimise the costs of the internal flight. Please note that the majority of air passes have restrictions; if you require an itinerary with full flexibility, please contact your travel consultant, who will advise the additional cost to provide you with a more flexible ticket. Please also note that in certain cases we may not be able to book internal flights under an air pass. In this event, a supplement may be payable.

Flight delays & insurance: Unfortunately, due to the increase in air traffic, government restrictions and changing weather conditions, flight delays have become more commonplace. These delays can cause problems with onward connections and / or hotel and holiday arrangements and, while the airline will sometimes make alternative arrangements to get you to your next destination at no extra cost, additional costs may well be involved for accommodation in the event of an overnight cancellation and also after your arrival at your next destination. These may be in the form of additional accommodation costs, transfers and onward travel. It is important that your insurance covers you against the costs incurred as a result of cancellation or delay to your flight. Unfortunately, since most services are paid for in advance, any services missed due to delays are non-refundable. We strongly advise that you are insured against such

Flight amendments: Most of the tours in this brochure use special airline fares. These have certain conditions that normally restrict changes of date, route and airline. Any such change made after a ticket has been issued will normally necessitate the purchase of a new ticket at the passenger's expense.

Special requests: Cox & Kings will endeavour to request any specific meals or services, on the condition that we are told at the time of booking. Specific seat requests with most major airlines can now only be requested if travelling in Business or First Class. We are able to request general seating preferences for Economy Class passengers. However, please remember that they are 'requests' and as such are at the discretion of the airline and cannot be guaranteed.

Airport departure taxes: International UK departure tax is included in the cost of your holiday (unless otherwise stated). Some cities in Latin America levy a departure tax for passengers departing on international flights, while there may

also be a small charge for departures on domestic flights. Often taxes will be included on your ticket, otherwise taxes will have to be paid in local currency or the equivalent in US dollars. Since there is no standard charge between countries, and taxes are subject to change, it is not possible to list the taxes in this brochure. We will advise you of the current charges with your final documents and our local agents will confirm any amounts payable on arrival. Please ensure you keep enough local currency or US dollars to cover such taxes.

#### Road Travel

Generally, road travel in Latin America is reasonably good; however, conditions vary greatly between the modern capital cities and the more remote areas. When travelling off the beaten track, roads are frequently narrow, bumpy, pot-holed and have stretches that are not sealed or which are under reconstruction. In Costa Rica, Cuba, Chile and Bolivia particularly, conditions are very dusty and / or bumpy, and the road journeys tend to be quite strenuous. Road conditions change throughout the year and heavy rain and extreme weather patterns can affect journey times. If we are tailoring an itinerary for you, it is always a good idea to discuss your particular preferences with your travel consultant, who will endeavour to include as much or as little road travel as you require. Types of vehicles vary according to the country visited and the numbers on a tour. For group tours, transport will usually be in the form of a European-style coach or, for smaller groups, may be by minibus. For individual journeys, transport will generally be by saloon car. In destinations where conditions require it, off road driving will be in 4x4 vehicles. Cox & Kings will always endeavour to provide the best quality vehicles for transfers and road journeys, however, in Cuba vehicles are supplied by the government's national provider. Inspections of the vehicles are carried out by local authorities but neither Cox & Kings nor our local agents in Cuba are given advance information about the quality of the

#### Car Hire

Cox & Kings can arrange self-drive holidays to certain parts of Latin America. Please enquire for further details and note that we advise against self-drive in some regions because, in our opinion, it is unsafe. In the event that you wish to book an independent self-drive, please be aware that this does not form part of your package holiday with Cox & Kings and as such Cox & Kings is not liable in any way for this part of your holiday. Please ensure that, if you do make such a booking, your insurance policy covers you.

#### Train Travel

With the exception of Peru, the opportunities to travel by train in Latin America are much more limited than in Europe or India, for example. Where train travel is an option, it can be very rewarding and enjoyable. Please contact your travel consultant to discuss the various train options and the facilities that are available on a particular route.

#### **Early Starts**

During some itineraries, it may be necessary to depart for excursions or transfers to the airport very early in the morning, sometimes before dawn. This is normally either due to the flight schedules within Latin America, or in order for us to maximise the opportunities for sightseeing during your tour. A number of flights to Latin America depart early in the morning and, while we will endeavour to schedule your tour with flights that depart at reasonable times, sometimes there is little or no alternative and early check-in / check-out times may be required.

#### Accommodation

Accommodation standards vary dramatically throughout Latin America. In the larger cities, the hotels we use are fully modernised and have excellent facilities, unless you choose to opt for the more colonial-style property, where facilities may be limited. In some smaller cities and more remote areas, we try to offer the best hotels available. However, these may be quite simple – sometimes small character properties, in which rooms may vary in size – and often have relatively basic facilities. Please note, all rooms reserved on your tour are standard; however, if you wish to upgrade your room (egt oa lake- or falls-view room, deluxe or suite), please speak to your travel consultant, who will be able to advise you about the options and applicable supplements.

Jungle lodges & remote areas: Accommodation in some rainforest lodges and remote areas is not comparable to the better properties found in other parts of the world and is often reached via narrow and unsealed roads or by boat and can be a long way from civilisation. Even when you travel off the beaten track with Cox & Kings, you can be sure that your accommodation is the best available even though it may be very modest. In these cases, we feel that the inconvenience of such accommodation is outweighed by the experience of staying in these more remote areas.

Check-in & check-out times: For all group and individual tours, hotel check-in and check-out time is normally 12 noon, but this does vary between hotels. If your flight arrives early in the morning, we will endeavour to secure a room for you on arrival, but this cannot be guaranteed and is at the discretion of the hotel, subject to availability. If you have an evening departure and require your room until a more suitable check-out time, you may either speak to the hotel reception to see if you can keep your room or secure your room prior to departure and pay an additional supplement – please contact your Latin America travel consultant for advice.

Single accommodation: Generally in Latin America, single and double rooms carry the same price, which means that single supplements for certain itineraries can seem high. In addition, single rooms cannot always be guaranteed at all hotels and lodges, especially in peak season. Occasionally, the location and standard of single rooms may not be as good as that of doubles, although often there is no difference. If you are in doubt, we suggest you request a double room at an additional supplement. If you are unhappy with your room while on holiday, please ensure that you query this with a Cox & Kings local representative at the time or discuss the matter with the hotel manager.

#### British Foreign & Commonwealth Advice

Cox & Kings supports the British Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) Travel Aware campaign to help you stay safe and healthy overseas. Find out more at travelaware.campaign. gov.uk. The FCO website provides travel information for many countries around the world which includes advice on safety and security, entry requirements and health, as well as general information. Cox & Kings strongly recommends that you, and everyone on your booking, visit the FCO website and read the advice about the country you are planning to visit prior to booking. You should also revisit the advice regularly prior to your departure as it may change frequently. It is also possible to sign-up to receive FCO e-mail updates for your destination so you are aware of any changes to advice they issue and we recommend you do this. There are different levels of advice, and sometimes this includes advice against travelling to certain areas or countries. To check the current travel advice, visit gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice and follow twitter.com/fcotravel and facebook.com/fcotravel.

## Documents & Health

#### Health & Entry Requirements

All the destinations featured in this brochure have specific entry regulations and many have recommended health precautions. The requirements and recommendations in force at the time of publication are detailed below. If there are any alterations, you will be informed at the time of booking or as soon as these are known to us. However, it is your responsibility to check the relevant requirements and recommendations before departure to ensure that you comply with them, and to take with you the correct documentation for the country or countries that you are visiting.

Please note that the entry requirements listed are only valid for British citizens. All other nationalities should check with the relevant embassy / consulate for advice. Regarding any inoculations or health precautions that may be needed, Cox & Kings recommends that you consult your GP or travel clinic for personal advice.

### Requirements and recommendations are as

AEGHK ACEGHIJK Antarctica: Argentina: AC†EFGÍK Belize: Bolivia: AC†EFGHIJK Brazil: ACEFGHIJK Chile: AEGHIJK AC\*EFGHIK Colombia: Costa Rica: AC\*EFGHIJK Cuba: ABC†DEGÍK AC<sup>†</sup>EFGHIJK AC<sup>†</sup>EFGHI Ecuador: El Salvador: Falkland Islands: AEGK AC†EFGIK French Guiana: AC†EFGHIK AC†EFGHIK AC†EFGHIJ Guatemala: Guyana: Honduras: Mexico: ADEFGHIJK Nicaragua: AC†EFGIK Panama: AC†EFGHIJK Paraguay: AC†EGIJK ACEFGHIJK Peru: Suriname: AC†EFGIJK AEGIK Uruguay:

#### Key to the codes:

A:	Full valid British passport required (minimum
	six months validity from the intended date of
	return).
р.	\(\(\text{ion upon incident}\)

B\*:

Visa required and can be obtained on arrival, please check requirements with your travel

B†: Visa required, to be completed online. C: C\*: Yellow fever precautions may be advised. A yellow fever certificate is required if travelling from an infected country. C†: A yellow fever certificate is required for all travellers more than one year old when travelling from an infected country Cholera precautions advised. D:

E: Typhoid, polio, rabies and hepatitis A precautions may be advised. F: Malaria precautions advised.

Tetanus precautions advised. Areas of high altitude – check with your GP for confirmation that it is safe for you to visit. G. H:

1: Food and drink precautions advised. Diphtheria precautions advised K: Hepatitis B precautions advised.

#### Changes to requirements and recommendations:

The above information is accurate at the time of writing (June 2019). Cox & Kings will advise you before accepting your booking should there be any subsequent changes to the above recommendations and requirements. You should contact your GP or visit the Masta (Medical Advice Service for Travellers Abroad) website at masta-travel-health.com where you can receive professional advice as well as arrange any vaccinations. Further country-specific useful health advice for travellers can be found via:

- fitfortravel nhs uk
- · gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice

#### General Health Advice

Please see the advice regarding inoculations for specific countries above. For more general advice, please note the following:

- Drink only bottled water and check the seal is secure when you receive it.
- Do not eat raw vegetables, unpeeled fruit and raw or uncooked seafood
- Avoid drinks with ice in unless you know that the ice was made from filtered water.
- · Avoid food and drink from street vendors and restaurants that might have suspect refrigeration and sanitary practices.

Malaria: Malaria may be a risk in parts of Latin America and no drug will guarantee total protection. It is essential that medical advice is sought before travelling as there are many factors that need to be considered, including, but not limited to, the area to be visited, risk of exposure and possible side effects.

**Zika:** Cases of Zika virus have been reported across Central and South America following an outbreak in 2015. We advise you to follow the advice of the National Travel Health Network and Centre, particularly if you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant, and seek advice from a health professional. Further information can be found on the following website: travelhealthpro.org.uk/diseases/zikavirus/

Altitude: Some areas of Latin America are at high altitude and key places are listed with their heights below. In order to minimise the effects of altitude and help the acclimatisation process, it is advisable to rest for a few hours upon arrival and avoid heavy meals, alcohol and physical exertion for the first day or two. If you have any history of heart complaints, or if you are over the age of 60, please check with your GP that it is safe to visit these areas. If you are planning to take part in a hike or a trek, please always check the requirements with your travel consultant as some countries and mountain ranges have specific regulations which must be followed.

#### Key places at altitude:

Country	Place	Height
Bolivia:	La Paz	3,640 metres
	Potosi	4,090 metres
	Lake Titicaca	3,812 metres
	Salar de Uyuni	3,656 metres
Peru:	Arequipa	2,335 metres
	Chivay, Colca	3,635 metres
	Cuzco	3,399 metres
	Machu Picchu	2,430 metres
	Patapampa Pt, Colca	4,910 metres
	Puno	3,830 metres
Chile:	San Pedro Atacama	2,408 metres
Colombia:	Bogotá	2,640 metres
Ecuador:	Quito	2,850 metres
	Cotopaxi NP	2,800 metres
Mexico:	Mexico City	2,250 metres
	San Cristobal	2,200 metres

#### Passports & Embassies

This advice is only valid for British citizen passport holders. Holders of any other type of British passport (eg British subjects) or of any other nationality must contact the relevant embassy / consulate (details listed below). It is important that you hold a valid 10-year British passport and we recommend that your passport is valid for a minimum of six months from your date of return to the UK. Passport application forms can be obtained from the post office or online at gov.uk/browse/abroad/ passports. The passport advice telephone line is on 0300 . 222 0000 (calls are charged at national rate). Whether renewing your passport or applying for a new one, all relevant information can be found on the website or by telephoning the number above. The cost for an online

application is £75.50 or a postal application is £85 and takes a minimum of three weeks to obtain from the date of application. Fast track passports of either 1 day or 1 week are also available at a higher cost.

Information on visas may be obtained from the respective embassies and high commissions at the following addresses:

- · Argentine Consulate, 27 Three Kings Yard, London W1K 4DF. Tel: 020 7318 1340.
- Belize High Commission, Third Floor, 45 Crawford Place, London W1H 4LP. Tel: 020 7723 3603.
- · Bolivian Embassy, 106 Eaton Square, London SW1W 9AD. Tel: 020 7235 4248.
- Brazilian Consulate, 3 Vere Street, London W1G 0DH. Tel: 020 7659 1550.
- Chilean Embassy, 37-41 Old Queen Street, London SW1H 9JA. Tel: 020 7222 2361.
- Colombian Consulate, 3rd Floor, Westcott House, 35 Portland Place, London W1B 1AE Tel: 020 7637 9893.
- Costa Rican Embassy & Consulate, 23 Woodstock Street, Mayfair, London W1C 2AS. Tel: 020 7629 3111.
- Cuban Consulate, 167 High Holborn. London WC1V 6PA. Tel: 020 7240 7463.
- Consulate General of Ecuador, 9 John Sessions Square, Alie Street, London N1 8NQ. Tel: 020 3905 2150.
- El Salvador Embassy, 2nd floor, 8 Dorset Square, London NW1 6PU. Tel: 020 7224 9800.
- Falkland Islands Government Office, 14 Broadway, Westminster, London SW1H 0BH. Tel: 020 7222 2542.
- For French Guiana please contact the French Consulate, 21 Cromwell Road, London SW7 2EN. Tel: 020 7073 1200.
- Guyana High Commission, 3 Palace Court, Bayswater Road, London W2 4LP. Tel: 020 7229 7684.
- Guatemalan Embassy, 105 a Westbourne Grove, London W2 4UW. Tel: 020 7221 7448.
- Embassy of Honduras, 4th Floor, 136 Baker Street, London W1U 6UD. Tel: 020 7486 4880.
- Mexican Embassy, 16 St George St, Hanover Square, London W1S 1FD. Tel: 020 7499 8586.
- Nicaraguan Consulate, Vicarage House, 58-60 Kensington Church Street, London W8 4DB. Tel: 020 7938 2373.
- Consulate of Panama, 40 Hertford Street, London W1J 7SH. Tel: 020 7493 4646.
- · Paraguayan Embassy, 3rd Floor, 344 Kensington High Street, London W14 8NS. Tel: 020 7610 4180
- Peruvian Consulate General, 52 Sloane Street, London SW1X 9SP. Tel: 020 7838 9223.
- Honorary Consulate of Suriname, 127 Pier House, 31 Cheyne Walk, London SW3 5HG. Tel: 07768 196 326.
- Uruguayan Embassy, 4th Floor, 150 Brompton Rd, London SW3 1HX. Tel: 020 7937 4170.

#### Visas

For British citizens, a tourist card is required for entry into most Latin American countries. These may be obtained and completed on all international flights, excluding flights to Cuba and Suriname. Please remember to retain each card for your departure from the country. It is not necessary to purchase tourist cards prior to departure, except for Cuba.

- For Cuba, Cox & Kings can process your tourist card which costs £15 plus a £15 handling fee. A photocopy of your passport is required.
- For Suriname, please check with your travel consultant.

If you require further information about obtaining a visa, Cox & Kings can recommend a reputable visa assistance company who can help with your application. Please contact your travel consultant for details.

Neither Cox & Kings nor any visa assistance company can guarantee the granting of any visas as this is a matter outside of their control. If a visa is not granted through no fault of Cox & Kings or any visa assistance company, neither will accept any liability for the consequences. Therefore Cox & Kings reserves the right to pass on to you any costs incurred as a result, including cancellation charges.

# Flying in Style

Your choice of scheduled airlines: It is Cox & Kings' policy to use scheduled flights on airlines with strong reputations for service, reliability and punctuality. Our holidays to Latin America feature a number of world-class airlines and on these pages we have highlighted seven of the best, as well as the different services they offer.

**Stretch out:** On long-haul flights, a little extra room can make a big difference to your comfort, so Cox & Kings offers a range of upgrade options at great prices.

In addition, the faster check in and comfortable lounges available to most upgrading passengers allow you to pass through the airport with ease.

**Regional connections:** Cox & Kings offers excellent add-on prices for those wishing to connect to long-haul flights from regional UK airports.

For further information, please either refer to the price panel on the tour page or contact Cox & Kings.

## BRITISH AIRWAYS Preferred Partner

British Airways flies from London Heathrow nonstop to Mexico City, Buenos Aires, Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo and Santiago and also from London Gatwick non-stop to Cancun, San José (Costa Rica) and Lima. You can either check in online or by using the British Airways app, printing or downloading your boarding pass and taking your baggage directly to the Bag Drop desk. Alternatively, check in at the checkin kiosk at the airport.



World Traveller benefits: A 79cm (31in) seat pitch with lumbar support, footrest and adjustable headrest; personal flat screen with headphones offering access to hundreds of the latest films, television and music; and balanced meals with complimentary bar service.

#### → World Traveller Plus

World Traveller Plus benefits: A smaller, more intimate cabin with priority boarding; a wider seat pitch 97cm (38in) and extra leg room offering more personal space than World Traveller; a flat in-flight entertainment screen with noise-cancelling headphones; and two delicious meals served on china crockery with a complimentary bar service.



British Airways World Traveller Plus



Club World benefits: Dedicated check-in desks with access to private lounges and luxurious spa treatments\*; priority boarding to your spacious seat which extends into a 183cm (6ft) fully flat bed with quality bedding and amenity kits specially designed by The White Company; a (12in) flat screen with noise-cancelling headphones; a three-course menu hand delivered with hearty dishes and nutritious salads along with a quality range of spirits and expertly sourced wines, and Club Kitchen snacks to help along with the flight.



First benefits: Experience the exclusive First Wing in London Heathrow Terminal Five or at other airports use the dedicated check-in desks with access to private lounges, luxurious spa treatments\* and priority boarding; you're personal suite converts into a 198cm (6ft 6in) fully flat bed with a luxurious quilted mattress, crisp white cotton duvet and pillow; exclusively designed Temperley London loungewear, amenity bag and slippers; a (15in) flat screen with noise-cancelling headphones; choose from a formal a la carte menu or an informal dining option, accompanied by fine wines and champagnes.

\*Elemis Travel Spa: Available at London Heathrow Terminal 5. Cabin design elements may vary by aircraft.



The Iberia Group flies from London Heathrow, London Gatwick, Birmingham, Edinburgh and Manchester, via Madrid, to 19 destinations in Latin America and the Caribbean. Other regional connections are available to London Heathrow. Iberia flights can be combined with British Airways flights.

Economy Class benefits: Up to 81cm (32in) seat pitch; choice of two meals and complimentary wine and beers on transatlantic flights (for flights from the UK to Madrid, meals and bar service are payable); seats on long-haul flights are equipped with individual touch screen with access to the same entertainment programme as in Business Class; Wi-Fi and GSM text available.

Premium Economy: Experience Iberia's new Premium Economy cabin on selected longhaul flights and enjoy a 94cm seat pitch with 18cm of cm of seatback recline. The cabin also offers noise-cancelling headphones, a 12" individual screen, Wi-Fi connectivity and complimentary meal service with wine and beers on transatlantic flights.

**Business Class benefits:** Separate check in and access to Business Class lounges; three pieces of luggage allowance; seat converts into a 195cm (6ft 4in) fully flat bed with a 67cm (26.37in) width, multi-adjustable seat cushion with built-in massage function; 39cm (15.4in) individual touch screens; choice of three menus, extensive wine list and self-service bar; Wi-Fi and GSM text available.



British Airways Club World



Iberia Business Class



The second oldest airline in the world, Avianca offers a daily non-stop flight from London Heathrow to Bogotá with connections through their hub in Bogotá to 25 cities within Colombia and to more than 100 destinations in the Americas. The route is operated by the Boeing 787 Dreamliner. Avianca is a Star Alliance member.

**Economy Class benefits:** Up to 81cm (32in) seat pitch with adjustable headrest; footrest; personal television screens with audio video on demand; complimentary meals and drinks.

**Business Class benefits:** Dedicated check-in counters and access to lounges; seats that convert into 192cm (6ft 3in) flat beds; personal television screens with audio video on demand and noise-reducing headphones; and gourmet meals with wines and champagnes. All of the Avianca fleet offers Business Class seats.



Avianca Business Class



KLM offers departures from 16 UK airports to Amsterdam. There are onward connections to Bogotá, Cartagena, Paramaribo, Lima, Quito, Guayaquil, Fortaleza, Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, Buenos Aires, Santiago, Mexico City, San José, Liberia and Panama City.

**Economy Class benefits:** up to 81cm (32in) seat pitch; ergonomically designed seats; personal television screens with audio video on demand; and choice of meals with complimentary alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages.

**Economy Comfort benefits:** Benefit from all of the features of Economy Class in addition to extra legroom (up to 89cm) and a greater seat recline (up to 18cm). Located at the front of the Economy Class in a separate zone. Seats are on a request-only basis.

**New World Business Class benefits:** Priority check in and access to KLM Crown Lounges and SkyTeam Lounges worldwide; seats that convert into a flatbed up to 207cm (6ft 9in) in length; personal 43cm (17in) television screens; choice of three-course gourmet meals and fine wines.



United is proud to have the world's most comprehensive route network. Their US mainland hubs include Chicago, Denver, Houston, Los Angeles, New York/Newark, San Francisco and Washington, D.C. These hub locations provide non-stop services from four UK airports to key destinations in Central America including Costa Rica, Belize, Guatemala and Nicaragua plus same day connections to South American cities such as São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro and Buenos Aires.

United Economy® and United Economy Plus® benefits: Ergonomically designed seats with up to 81cm (32in) of leg room in Economy and up to 36 inches in Economy Plus; complimentary three-course meal service; in-flight snacks, wine, beer and soft drinks on all international flights; a wide choice of on-demand films, TV shows, music and more, shown on individual seat back screens; Wi-Fi available on all trans-Atlantic flights allowing access to a free library of movies and TV shows streamed direct to a personal device. Economy Plus provides swifter exit upon arrival.

#### **Introducing United® Premium Plus:**

Throughout 2019 and 2020, United Airlines will be introducing their international premium economy seat, United Premium Plus. The full United® Premium Plus experience will be offered on select international flights, giving passengers more space, comfort and amenities. Enjoy upgraded dining on china dinnerware, free alcoholic beverages, a Saks Fifth Avenue blanket and pillow, an amenity kit and more.

#### United Polaris business class® benefits:

Chef-designed, multi-course inflight dining experience; custom luxury bedding designed by Saks Fifth Avenue on 198cm (6ft 6in) 180-degree flat-bed seats; amenity kits with Sunday Riley skincare products; personal ondemand entertainment system featuring a wide choice of movies, TV shows, music and more with noise-reduction headphones; Premier Access check-in, baggage handling, boarding and access to United Clubs and award-winning United Polaris lounges in select U.S. hubs.

Number of onward connections includes destinations served by United Airlines, Inc. and United Express. On-board facilities may vary depending on aircraft. Surcharges apply for internet access.



United Polaris business class®



LATAM Airlines Group is Latin America's leading airline group with one of the largest international networks in the world, offering flights to around 143 destinations in 25 countries, including six countries in Latin America: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru. With a young and modern aircraft fleet, LATAM Airlines offers daily and direct flights from London Heathrow to our São Paulo hub, from which passengers can connect to over 120 destinations across Latin America.

Economy Class benefits: Up to 81cm (32in) seat pitch; 23cm (9in) personal TV screen with the latest selection of music, movies, TV series and games; the first airline to provide 'premium' in-flight meals in economy class, allowing passengers to choose from a variety of traditional Latin American dishes with larger portion sizes; three options for lunch and dinner including a hot, vegetarian or a lighter cold dish with a Latin American touch.

Business Class benefits: Dedicated check-in desks with access to lounges; seats can be converted into beds; in-flight entertainment available at 40cm (15.4in) individual screens; personalized breakfast service and a fourcourse service of lunch or dinner to be paired with an award-winning Latin American wine list selected by the only Master Sommelier in Latin America, Héctor Vergara.



Virgin Atlantic operates non-stop flights from London Gatwick to Havana and from 2020 will operate from London Heathrow to São Paulo.

**Economy Classic benefits:** Seats with 79cm (31in) seat pitch and free seat selection; enjoy a three-course meal plus drinks and snacks; and fantastic inflight entertainment.

**Economy Delight benefits:** Premium check in and boarding; on board, relax into your extra legroom seat with 86cm (34in) seat pitch; enjoy a three-course meal plus drinks and snacks; and fantastic inflight entertainment.

**Premium benefits:** Premium check in and boarding; dedicated Premium cabin; welcome drink; wide leather seat with 97cm (38in) seat pitch; in-seat power supply; premium menu.

**Upper Class benefits:** Chauffeur-driven car service\* to take you to the Upper Class Wing within minutes<sup>1</sup>; access to the Clubhouse airport lounge<sup>1</sup>; on board, relax into your suite as we serve you imaginatively designed dishes and fine wines; drift off to sleep in your fully flat bed.

- \*Chauffeur driven car service available at most destinations with selected Upper Class fares. Mileage restrictions apply.
- $^{\dagger}\text{Timings}$  based on using Upper Class Wing at London Heathrow.
- <sup>‡</sup>Lounge facilities vary at each destination.

# Cox & Kings Holidays Explained



Scarlet macaws, Costa Rica

#### **Accommodation Ratings**

The properties displayed on the accommodation pages in this brochure and on our website are each given one of the following six ratings, listed in order of comfort:

**Exceptional:** Truly exclusive and exceptionally luxurious.

Luxury: Very high class accommodation with superb facilities and service.

Superior: High standard accommodation, service and facilities.

Good Standard: Good standard accommodation, service and facilities.

**Simple:** Clean and comfortable with en suite bathrooms, but limited facilities.

**Basic:** Very modest, typically with shared bathrooms and minimal facilities.

Due to space restrictions this brochure only features a limited selection of the hotels we offer. Please visit CoxandKings.co.uk to see our full range of hotels.

#### **Prices**

We go to great lengths to ensure that our group and private tours represent excellent value for money, taking into account the quality of accommodation and the services included. Our guideline prices are per person in UK pounds, based on two people sharing a twin / double room.

The pricing for all our tours to Latin America includes the international airfare from the UK. However, in an era when airlines regularly change

their fares due to fuel costs and other factors, the cost of a tour can change after the publication of our brochures. Therefore, in this brochure all our prices are guideline prices. For each tour we publish a lead-in price for the low season, which is indicative of the lowest price at which the tour is available, and the lead-in price for the high season. In some cases the prices for peak season departures, over the Christmas period for example, may be significantly higher than the guideline high season price.

For group tours, to see more up to date pricing for a specific departure date, please visit our website at CoxandKings.co.uk.

**Important:** For both group and private tours, please contact one of our tour consultants for an accurate price quote for a specific departure date.

#### **Escorted Group Tours**

To enhance your enjoyment of the tour, we like to keep our groups small and manageable. Therefore, numbers are normally restricted to a maximum of 26 people.

The majority of our tours are general interest tours, most of which are operated by Cox & Kings for Cox & Kings clients. Where tours are labelled non-exclusive group tours, they are not operated by Cox & Kings and the participants may not all be Cox & Kings clients.

There are four categories of group tour: Luxury, Superior, Standard and Discovery (see paragraph on Tour Categories).

**Solo Travellers tours:** In addition to our main group tours, we also feature Solo Travellers tours in Latin America. This collection has been specially created for individual travellers who enjoy exploring

fascinating parts of the world in the company of like-minded people. We also have a dedicated brochure and website section (CoxandKings. co.uk/solo-travellers) that describe the complete range.

#### **Tour Categories**

Cox & Kings tours fall into one of four categories, based on the level of comfort you can expect on a tour, as described below. On certain tours, we include some departures in one category and some in another.

**Luxury:** These are our most comfortable tours and will usually feature 5-star de luxe accommodation throughout.

**Superior:** Most Cox & Kings tours fall under this category and are based in 4- or 5-star accommodation where available, or the best alternative elsewhere.

**Standard:** Simpler in emphasis, these itineraries typically feature 4-star or good 3-star accommodation throughout, or the best alternative elsewhere.

**Discovery:** This type of tour is best suited to the hardier traveller as it will typically include some quite basic accommodation, possibly longer and rougher road journeys and, in some cases, more strenuous activities, such as trekking.

#### **Private Travel**

Private travel refers to trips taken independently and includes both set itineraries and tailor-made holidays. Almost all our group tours can be taken on a private basis and some itineraries are available for private travel only. The private tours and suggested itineraries listed in this brochure are suggestions to demonstrate how multiple places can be connected together, giving an idea of how long you might like to spend in each place and also a guideline price. All our itineraries can be tailored to suit your particular requirements.

#### Cruises & Rail Journeys

Tours are labelled as cruise or rail journey if the core content of the itinerary is by boat or train, including staying on board at night. In such cases, while the sections of the itinerary before and after the cruise or rail journey would operate as private travel, the days during the cruise or rail journey and the relevant transfers and excursions may be operated on a group basis with other passengers who may not be Cox & Kings clients.

#### Upgrades & Supplements

**Regional air connections:** Most Cox & Kings holidays are based on flights from London Heathrow or Gatwick and in most cases it is possible to connect with those flights from regional British airports for a small supplement. Please ask your tour consultant for details.

**Flight upgrades:** For those wishing to fly in greater comfort, Cox & Kings can offer favourable prices for upgrading to Premium Economy, Business and First Class. Guideline prices for these upgrade supplements are included on the tour page. Please contact your tour consultant for a price quote based on your specific date of departure. The Flying in Style section on pages 168-169 contains more information about the different premium classes on the airlines we most commonly use.

**Room upgrades:** On both group tours and private holidays there may be opportunities to upgrade to a higher standard of room in many hotels. Please ask your Cox & Kings tour consultant to explain the upgrade options to you and provide you with a price quote.

**Single room supplements:** If you are a single traveller joining a group tour there will generally be a supplementary charge. This is because

hotels typically charge more per person for single occupancy as the cost of maintaining a room for one person can be almost as high as it is for two. Some of the group tours in this brochure are dedicated Solo Travellers tours, for which the prices include single occupancy of a double / twin room, so there is no additional supplement.

#### Land-Only Travel

Although guideline prices for the tours in this brochure include the international airfare, if you would prefer to book your own flights, whether to join a group tour or for private travel, your Cox & Kings tour consultant will be happy to quote you the price for taking the tour on a land-only basis.

However, before booking your own flights please always contact your tour consultant because there are important issues to be aware of. For example, if a tour includes internal flights there can be an impact on the cost of those flights if they are booked separately from the international flights, or on a different airline from the one mentioned in the itinerary. If booking on a group tour you would also need to be aware of the tour timings and there may be supplementary costs if you require private transfers or additional hotel nights on arrival or departure.

We strongly advise against booking flights independently of Cox & Kings for group tours as you would incur significant charges in the event that a group tour is cancelled. Finally, it is important to be aware that, if you choose to book your international flights independently of Cox & Kings, you would no longer benefit from the full Atol holiday protection provided by a packaged air and land holiday.

#### When to Travel

The weather in Latin America is very variable through the seasons and in different regions. The opening spread of pages for each country / region includes climate information and most tour pages include detailed charts showing the average temperature and rainfall in the relevant regions throughout the year. Even greater detail – and measurements in imperial units – can be found on our website. Our expert travel consultants will also be delighted to give you detailed advice about the likely conditions at different times of year.

Latin America is also well known for its festivals. If you are interested in visiting during a particular celebration, please contact a Cox & Kings tour consultant for dates. Some Cox & Kings tours have special festival departures and these are highlighted on the tour page.

#### Mobility & Accessibility

Many Cox & Kings tours visit places that require quite a lot of walking. In the case of historical / archaeological sites in particular, surfaces can be uneven and there may be a lot of steps. If you have any concerns about how strenuous a particular itinerary may be, please speak to one of our expert tour consultants prior to booking to get a realistic sense of what is involved.

#### Combining Multiple World Regions

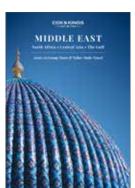
Should you wish to combine multiple regions of the world in a single journey, Cox & Kings has a great deal of experience in tailoring such travel plans, including arranging round-the-world flights. Please contact us for details of the various options and a price quotation.

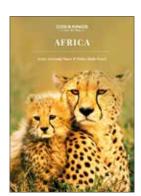
#### **Ensuring Your Enjoyment**

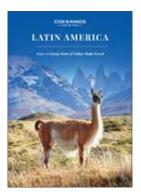
When making a booking, if you feel that there is anything Cox & Kings should know about that is essential to your enjoyment of your holiday, please ensure that we have been made aware of this, preferably in writing, at the time of booking.

# COX & KINGS EST ¥ 1758



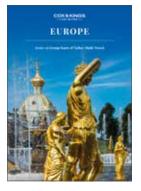




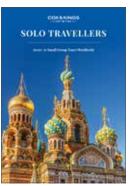












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