

# ESSENTIAL INFORMATION PERU

## PASSPORT AND VISA INFORMATION

Your passport needs to be valid for at least six (6) months after your journey and should have a minimum of two (2) blank visa pages for entry and exit stamps.

**Holders of U.S. and Canadian passports are not required to obtain a tourist visa for entry into Peru for stays of up to 183 days.**

Our partner VisaCentral offers easy, efficient U.S. passport and visa processing. Visit them online at [visacentral.com/abercrombiekent](https://visacentral.com/abercrombiekent) or call 844 823 1224 and reference A&K's account number 73001. Service fees apply.

Citizens of other countries should contact the appropriate consular office for entry requirements pertaining to their journey.

## VACCINATIONS

There are no vaccinations required to enter Peru.

## STAY HEALTHY ON THE ROAD

If your journey includes travel to high-altitude Andean destinations in Peru including Cusco, the Sacred Valley, Machu Picchu, Puno and Lake Titicaca, you may experience altitude sickness. Please consult your healthcare provider for suggestions on prevention and treatment.

## CASH & CREDIT CARDS

The U.S. dollar is as readily accepted throughout Peru as the local currency. However, notes should be clean and in good condition since foreign bills will be closely examined by merchants and anything that looks suspicious will be rejected. When leaving a small gratuity however, it is best to tip in local currency. Most stores and restaurants prefer cash. Credit card usage may be limited outside of Lima. Carrying dollars in smaller denominations will facilitate your transactions. ATM access is available in limited locations in major cities and many dispense \$20 bills.

## OF SPECIAL NOTE

### Domestic Flights

Domestic flights within Peru are often affected by unseasonable weather patterns which can affect flight schedules on short notice. As a result, A&K guests on tours within Peru may experience some delays and possibly flight cancellations during their tour. In the event of such an occurrence on your tour, local A&K staff will do everything to assist you in booking alternate flights or making other travel arrangements (if necessary). However, any additional expenses incurred due to regional flight cancellations are the responsibility of the traveller and will need to be paid directly to the airline and/or hotel. You will need to claim any expenses for these arrangements with your travel insurance company upon your return.

In order to secure your domestic airline tickets, train tickets and entrance into Machu Picchu, as well as tickets for the optional Huayna Picchu hike, Abercrombie & Kent requires a copy of your passport information at time of booking confirmation.

### Machu Picchu Regulations

The National Institute of Culture (INC) and the Machu Picchu Historical Sanctuary Management Unit (UGM) restrict the number of visitors to the citadel at Machu Picchu (2,500 per day). The number of people who may hike Huayna Picchu is also restricted (250 per shift). These regulations are designed to minimize the damage to the ruins and terrain and to conserve this

historical resource. Entrance times are split between morning and afternoon shifts and tickets limit the time permitted at the site. Visitors may only access the site in the company of a guide in the morning from 6:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon or in the afternoon from 12:00 noon to 5:30 p.m. In order to ensure you have access to Machu Picchu and and/or hike Huayna Picchu, tickets must be purchased in advance of your arrival. If you wish to hike to Huayna Picchu, you should advise A&K at time of booking so that arrangements can be made for you to participate in this activity. Tickets are subject to availability. Tickets are not required for the Inti Punku hike (about one-hour round trip). Rules are subject to change or be re-defined at any time.

Hikes up the mountain are permitted twice a day at 7:00 a.m. or 10:00 a.m. Hikers sign in prior to beginning the hike and sign out on their return. The path was originally built by the Incas and is comprised of uneven stone steps that ascend steeply in a switchback pattern up the mountain. The hike is tiring due to the altitude; however the views over Machu Picchu at the lookout points are rewarding. In total, the hike takes approximately three hours (ascent and descent). Elevation at the summit is 8,858 feet above sea level and the hike is approximately 0.5 miles long with a vertical elevation gain of 900 feet. Level of difficulty: Difficult (mountain hikers need to be fit.)

Please note that if you will be using professional photographic equipment in Machu Picchu, you are required to obtain special authorization and pay a fee (currently US\$360.00). Use of tripods is not allowed at Machu Picchu without a permit. Authorization may take up to 20 days and should be arranged well in advance of your arrival. In addition to the fee, you will need to provide Abercrombie & Kent with your dates of travel, passport details along with the model numbers and brand names of your cameras and photographic equipment. These restrictions are for professional photographers; however, INC officials (Peruvian Institute of Culture) at Machu Picchu may not always distinguish between standard high-end camera equipment and professional camera equipment. If you will be carrying more than one camera or any specialized lenses, please advise your guide in advance. To avoid problems, you may choose to keep these in your daypack or a small bag and carry only a smaller camera into the site.

#### *Niños del Arco Iris (Children of the Rainbow) Visit*

Guests whose itinerary includes a visit to *Niños del Arco Iris (Children of the Rainbow)*, a project supported by A&K Philanthropy, may choose to pack some small items to give as gifts. Suggested items include toothpaste, toothbrushes, towels and soap. Please liaise with your Tour Director for the appropriate protocol on gift-giving.

# PACKING LIST & BAGGAGE RESTRICTIONS

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### BAGGAGE RESTRICTIONS

On domestic flights within Peru, each traveller is limited to one (1) checked bag weighing 50 pounds (23 kilograms), with linear dimensions (height+width+depth) not to exceed 62 inches (158 centimeters). In addition you may bring one (1) personal item (such as a purse or laptop) and one (1) carry-on weighing up to 17 pounds (8 kilograms), maximum dimensions not to exceed 21 inches (55 centimeters) x 13 inches (33 centimeters) x 9 inches (25 centimeters) (height, depth and width), including the pockets, wheels and handle.

It is recommended that you do not pack important and/or fragile items in your carry-on bag and bring a small padlock in the event your carry-on bag is stored as checked luggage due to limited space in the overhead bins.

In addition to your carry-on bag, you may bring one personal item no larger than 18 inches high (45 centimeters) x 14 inches wide (35 centimeters) x 8 inches (20 centimeters) deep, which must fit under the seat in front of you. Carry important items and documents with you as a personal item.

Baggage on trains to and from Machu Picchu is limited to one (1) bag or backpack not to exceed 11 pounds (5 kilograms) and linear dimensions of 62 inches (158 centimeters). Luggage storage may be arranged, if necessary, with your guide. Depending on your itinerary, tagged luggage can be stored at your hotel in Cusco until you return from Machu Picchu. (Additional costs may apply.)

When visiting Machu Picchu, please note any type of bag/backpack measuring more than 15.7 inches (40 centimeters) x 14 inches (35 centimeters) x 8 inches (20 centimeters) is not permitted, and must be placed in storage (near the entrance of the citadel).

Please use the provided A&K luggage tags, even if your bags already have ID tags. This makes it easier for A&K staff to find and manage your luggage for you.

### PACKING LIST

Choose versatile, casual clothing that can be layered if the weather (or level of air-conditioning) requires. Temperatures will change as altitudes and time of day change, so it's best to bring shorts as well as long trousers.

If visiting the Peruvian Amazon: expedition-type ventilated long-sleeved shirts and pants (including some pants with zip-off legs that convert long-pants into shorts). Light and neutral colors are best; black, navy or other dark colors tend to attract insects.

Smart casual attire is appropriate for evenings. Formal clothing is not necessary.

#### Clothing

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|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Casual slacks                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Walking shorts                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Polo shirts, casual short-sleeve shirts or blouses | <input type="checkbox"/> Long sleeve shirts or blouses |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lightweight raincoat or poncho                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal garments             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sweater or lightweight fleece jacket               | <input type="checkbox"/> Swimwear/cover-up             |

- Comfortable walking shoes with low or no heels
- Waterproof, lightweight, well-broken in hiking boots for trekking activities in the Andes or Amazon rainforest regions (if applicable)
- River sport walking shoes or sandals such as Texas®
- Sleepwear
- Socks
- Wide-brimmed sunhat that ties on

#### Other Recommended Items

- Sunglasses with strap
- Simple first-aid kit
- Mosquito repellent
- Extra eyeglasses/contact lenses
- Charging cables for electronics
- Sun block and lip balm
- Prescriptions and medications (in their original bottles and/or packaging)
- Smartphone
- Global travel adapter

#### Optional Items

- Small LED flashlight
- Lightweight binoculars
- Foldable walking stick (rubber pointed tips only)
- Small waterproof daypack

Laundry service is available at most hotels and dry cleaning is available in larger cities. Check costs and return times before using these services.

## TIPPING GUIDELINES PERU

While decisions regarding tipping rest entirely with you, we suggest the following gratuities (noted in U.S. dollars) depending on the type of journey:

	<b>All Small Group Journeys and Pre/Post Tour Extensions</b>	<b>Tailor Made and Signature Journeys</b>
Resident Tour Director or Group Extension Guide	\$15 per person, per day	Not applicable
Local Guides	Included	\$15 per person, per day (full day)
Drivers	Included	\$10 per person, per day (full day)
Airport Transfer Drivers	Included	\$5 per person, per transfer
Hotel Porters	Included	\$2 per bag
Cruise vessels / Trains	Included	\$10-\$15 per person, per day – Gratuities accepted on board the boat/train and shared among the staff.
Housekeepers	Included	\$2 per person, per night
Included Meals	Included	Included
Restaurants or Room Service on own	10-15% unless already added	10-15% unless already added

For extra nights or Tailor Made services added to a Small Group Journey, please follow the Tailor Made Journeys guidelines for these days only.