

## PERU

### LOCATION

Peru is located in the west central part of South America. It can be compared in size to Spain, France and former West Germany combined. In South America, only Brazil and Argentina are larger. Peru is bordered to the north by Ecuador, to the south by Chile and Bolivia, to the east by Colombia and Brazil and to the west by the Pacific Ocean. It has a varied and diverse country due to the climatic, natural and cultural diversity of its regions. It is 1,554 miles (2,500 km) long, and has 3 natural regions: coast, sierra and jungle.



### CLIMATE

The climate of Peru varies widely, ranging from tropical in the Montana to arctic in the highest mountains of the Andes. Peru offers one of the most diverse geographies of the planet, thus weather changes according to its region: coast, mountain and jungle.

On the Coast you can enjoy a moderate temperature, ranging between 13°C and 29°C according to the season. Winters (June - September) are humid and cloudy. Sometimes, there is a very fine drizzle due to the moisture, but will not stop outside activity. Meanwhile, on the north you can enjoy warm temperatures and beautiful beaches all year-long.

The Mountain is formed by the magnificent Cordillera de Los Andes. During the day, temperatures range around 24°C, plunging to -3°C at night. Air is always dry and there are rains between January and February, but it doesn't stop the numerous carnival festivities in the Andean villages.

In the jungle, you can enjoy a tropical weather, warm and humid with temperatures ranging between 26°C and 40°C. It can rain at any moment especially from January to February.

### CAPITAL

Lima

### TIME ZONES

GMT - 5

### VISA AND PASSPORT

A Canadian passport valid 6 months after return is required to enter Peru.  
SUBJECT TO CHANGE. For detailed information, visit [www.travel.gc.ca](http://www.travel.gc.ca)

### ELECTRICITY

Electricity in Peru is 220 V. In some hotel you will find 110 V.

### LANGUAGE

Spanish is commonly spoken across the country. Peruvian Spanish has a low accent and is easy to understand. Quechua, the language of the Incas, is spoken in the mountain. Aymara is mainly spoken in the communities of Puno. In the jungle, different dialects are spoken.

**MONEY**

The official currency of Peru is the Nuevo Sol. Useful papers bills are those of 10, 20, 50 and 100 Nuevos Soles. We recommend you to change your Canadian dollars into the local currency. We highly recommend you to do it in formal Exchange Houses, airports and hotels. US Dollars are accepted in most commercial establishments. Always ask for the current exchange rate. Visa, MasterCard, Diners and American Express are commonly used in Lima shopping centers, but not in province. If you are planning to buy handicrafts and traditional products, please take note that small shops don't have this system, payment are only made in cash. If you have a credit card, you can withdraw money from cash machines (ATM) in the principal cities.

**FOOD**

Peruvian cuisine is usually considered one of the most diverse in the world. Peruvian cuisine combines the flavors of four continents. With the eclectic variety of traditional dishes, the Peruvian culinary arts are in constant evolution, and impossible to list in their entirety. Suffice it to mention that along the Peruvian coast alone there are more than two thousand different types of soups, and that there are more than 250 traditional desserts. Each regions have they own specific taste an dishes.

**TIPPING**

Tipping is not included and is completely at your own discretion. Our general recommendation is to tip moderately. Below is just a guideline for tips per person per day:

- 10% of your bill at restaurants
- \$USD 1 to porters
- \$USD 2 per day for drivers
- \$USD 5-8 per day for guides

**HEALTH**

There is no mandatory vaccination to enter Peru but some may be suggested. Travel to Cuzco, Machu Picchu, Puno, Lake Titicaca, Huaraz and other areas in the Peruvian Andes may result in altitude sickness. Those who have high blood pressure or heart conditions should be particularly cautious. All travelers should visit either their personal physician or a travel health clinic. Travel insurance is highly recommended.

**CANADIAN EMBASSY IN PERU**  
 Address: Calle Libertad 130  
 Miraflores, Lima 18, Peru  
 Postal Address: P.O. Box 18-1126  
 Miraflores Post Office, Lima 18, Peru  
 Tel: 511 444 4015  
 Fax: 511 242 4050  
 Email: [lima@international.gc.ca](mailto:lima@international.gc.ca)  
 Internet: [www.lima.gc.ca](http://www.lima.gc.ca)



For further information, visit the official tourist board website of Peru: [www.peru.info](http://www.peru.info)

