

# Lima

A five-senses guide to the city



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# Welcome to Lima!

**P**eru's capital is a melting pot of customs and traditions from all over the country but also from abroad. Criollo, African-Peruvian, Andean, Amazon, Chinese and Italian sources, among many others, melt in the capital's cuisine, culture and architecture. There is a Lima for every taste: for gastronomy lovers, shoppers, souvenir collectors, adventurers, culture and art lovers, and night time revelers...

Thumb through these pages and choose yours.



“Across Diego Ferré street, suddenly 200 meters to the west, they arrived at the Reserva oceanfront walk, a snake embracing Miraflores like a belt of red bricks sitting on the edge of the city over the cliffs, and the noisy, grey and clean sea of the Bay of Lima”.

Mario Vargas Llosa. The Time of the Hero (1963).





Today, over nine million people nurture the life of the country's financial and commercial heart. Peru's economic bonanza has transformed its capital: a metro line links the ends of the expanding city limits, while modern buildings reach to the sky in the residential and business quarters. Lima has become the ideal venue for large international conferences and events.













# Know

**“Spanish conquistador Francisco Pizarro founded in Lima the capital of the Viceroyalty of Peru. He called it “The City of the Kings” and laid it out following the typical grid plan”.**

Lima’s history goes way back before its Spanish founding on January 18, 1535. The evidence is all over the place. One just has to be attentive. Whether in the middle of a city park or rising across modern buildings, suddenly, the brown adobe mound becomes the main actor on the city’s landscape. They are the “huacas” or religious and administrative centers built with clay mud bricks by ancient Peruvians and which the region’s dry climate has helped preserve almost intact. Some are over 4000 years old, others were built at the time of the Lima (150-650 A.D.) and Ichma (1100-1450 A.D.) civilizations. Spanish

conquistador Francisco Pizarro founded in Lima the capital of the Viceroyalty of Peru. He called it “The City of the Kings” and laid it out following the typical grid plan. Lima’s historical center abounds in architectural jewels demonstrate that in Colonial times Lima was South America’s most important city. Its churches and convents house impressive art collections, while the mansions inhabited by the important residents of those times have earned it Unesco’s recognition as a Mankind Cultural Heritage Site.

## Learn about Lima's pre-Hispanic past

**Pachacamac Sanctuary ❶ (31 km south of Lima):** Before the Incas, this was the most important ceremonial site on the Peruvian coast, as evidenced by the imposing temple of the Sun and the Acllahuasi (House of Virgins) sitting on site's 465 hectares.

**Pucllana ❷ (Miraflores) and Huallamarca ❸ (San Isidro):** "huacas": Ceremonial centers located in two of the city's traditional residential quarters. They are now the stage of outdoor movie projections and concerts. The restaurant across from Pucllana Huaca is recognized for its fine cooking and exceptional views.





San Francisco Convent. © José Orihuela / PROMPERU

## Learn about Lima's colonial past

**Main square ("Plaza de Armas"):** As in every city built in Colonial times, the main square is surrounded by the seats of power, including the Palace of Government, the Cathedral and City Hall. This is the starting point of any to tour the heart of Lima, its **historical center** 4.

**Churches:** the splendor of Colonial architecture is reflected in Lima's churches. **The Cathedral** 5, houses the Museum of Religious Art and its altars' fine work in wood and gold leaf. At **San Francisco** church and convent 6, built in the 17th century, a tour of its Museum of Viceroyalty Art and the catacombs, the underground galleries that were used in as cemeteries in the times of the Colony, is a must. When it comes to religious fervor, **Santo Domingo** church and convent 7, where the mortal rests of Santa Rosa de Lima and San Martín de Porres lay, and the Church of the **Nazarenos** 8, where the image of the Lord of the Miracles, Lima's Patron Saint, is revered, are extremely popular.





**Scan here**

to download the  
**audioguides to Lima's  
historical center.**

## Know the city through its museums

Pre-Hispanic period:

**National Museum of Archeology, Anthropology and History of Peru** <sup>9</sup> (extremely popular for its “huacos” ceramic sculptures), **Rafael Larco Herrera** Archeological Museum <sup>10</sup> (featuring pieces exhibited in an 18th century old residential house), **Amano Pre-Columbian Textile Museum** <sup>11</sup> (a private collection of pre-Columbian pieces).

**Pedro de Osma** Colonial and Modern History and Art Museum <sup>12</sup> (featuring works of arts from the 16th to 18th centuries), **Lima Art Museum** <sup>13</sup> (in addition to its pre-Columbian and Colonial art collection, it also showcases modern photography and art. **MATE- Mario Testino Museum** <sup>14</sup> (an exhibition of the world renowned Peruvian photographer), **MAC – Museum of Contemporary Art** <sup>15</sup>, **Museum of the Congress and the Inquisition** <sup>16</sup>, **Museum of Popular Arts and Traditions at the Riva Agüero Institute – Catholic University** <sup>17</sup>.









# Enjoy

What better way to know a place than through its cultural manifestations and night life?

Enjoy all of them to better understand life in the city.

## Music

Concerts every day, whether in large auditoriums or on small stages. Rhythms range from African Peruvian music to flamenco, through jazz, rock, pop and classical music fusion.

Barranco quarters are green and peaceful but become the stage for legendary night shows staged by Peruvian and international performers. At its more traditional bars, drink to the thump of a nostalgic juke box or a live concert.

## Dancing and the night life

If you want a night out in Lima, its taverns and supper night clubs are the place to go. One of the most traditional taverns is in Pueblo Libre <sup>18</sup> district where the party starts with a self-mixed “res” cocktail (Peruvian “pisco” grape brandy, ginger ale and sliced lime). Supper clubs feature folk music and dance shows.

For the bohemian spirit, Barranco <sup>19</sup> is the place to be at. During the day,

Dance lovers find refuge in Miraflores’ discos <sup>20</sup>, where music may be an eclectic mix of electronic, “merengue” and rock. Movement is what matters, and even more so at dance halls welcoming salsa lovers. In the capital, gaming places, in addition to gambling, also run live shows, karaoke and contests among guests.

A walk down Larco avenue <sup>21</sup>, in Miraflores, will take you through some of the best gaming places in the city.



## Performing arts

Times are good for theater in Peru, with Lima at its heart. International drama pieces share the stage with local plays. But humor does not lag behind. Stand up and impro shows enjoy a growing audience.

### Theaters:

- **Alianza Francesa:** avenida Arequipa 4595, Miraflores.  
[www.alianzafrancesa.org.pe](http://www.alianzafrancesa.org.pe)
- **Gran Teatro Nacional:** avenida Javier Prado Este 2225, San Borja.  
[www.granteatronacional.pe](http://www.granteatronacional.pe)
- **La Plaza:** malecón de la Reserva 610, Miraflores (Larcomar).
- **Teatro Mario Vargas Llosa:** avenida de la Poesía 160, San Borja.
- **Marsano:** avenida General Suárez 409, Miraflores.  
[www.osvaldocattone.com](http://www.osvaldocattone.com)
- **Teatro De Lucía:** calle Bellavista 512, Miraflores.  
[www.teatrodelucia.com](http://www.teatrodelucia.com)
- **Teatro Municipal:** jirón Ica 377, Lima.
- **Yuyachkani:** calle Tacna 363, Magdalena del Mar.  
[www.yuyachkani.org](http://www.yuyachkani.org)
- **Teatro Pirandello:** avenida Alejandro Tirado 274, Lima.





## Cultural centers

- **Casa de la Literatura Peruana** (Antigua Estación de Desamparados): jirón Áncash 207, Lima.

[www.casadelaliteratura.gob.pe](http://www.casadelaliteratura.gob.pe)

- **Centro Cultural Británico:** jirón Bellavista 531 / Malecón Balta 740, Miraflores.

[www.centrocultural.britanico.edu.pe](http://www.centrocultural.britanico.edu.pe)

- **Centro Cultural de la Escuela Nacional Superior Autónoma de Bellas Artes:** jirón Huallaga 426, Lima.

- **Centro Cultural de San Marcos:** avenida Nicolás de Piérola 1222, Parque Universitario Lima, Lima.

[www.ccsm-unmsm.edu.pe](http://www.ccsm-unmsm.edu.pe)

- **Centro Cultural de España en Lima:** jirón Natalio Sánchez 181, Santa Beatriz.

[www.ccelima.org](http://www.ccelima.org)

- **Centro Cultural y Científico de la Universidad Cayetano Heredia:** avenida Armendáriz 445, Miraflores.

[www.upch.edu.pe/rector/cc](http://www.upch.edu.pe/rector/cc)

- **Centro Cultural Ricardo Palma:** avenida Larco 770, Miraflores.

- **Centro Cultural Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú – PUCP:** avenida Camino Real 1075, San Isidro.

[www.centroculturalpucp.com](http://www.centroculturalpucp.com)

- **Centro Cultural Juan Parra del Riego:** avenida Pedro de Osma 135, Barranco.

- **Centro Cultural Peruano Japonés:** avenida Gregorio Escobedo 803, Jesús María.

[www.apj.org.pe/agenda/cultural](http://www.apj.org.pe/agenda/cultural)

- **Instituto Cultural Peruano Norteamericano:**

[www.cultural.icpna.edu.pe](http://www.cultural.icpna.edu.pe)





## Fine arts

Painting, sculpture, installations and performances, all of these can be found in the city's numerous galleries. A tour will show the artists' views of the transformations the city has gone through in recent decades.

### Galleries:

- **80 m2:** malecón Pazos 252, Barranco.  
[www.80m2galeria.com](http://www.80m2galeria.com)
- **Enlace:** avenida Camino Real 1123, San Isidro.  
[www.enlaceart.com](http://www.enlaceart.com)
- **Forum:** avenida Larco 1150 (sótano), Miraflores.  
[www.galeriaforum.net](http://www.galeriaforum.net)
- **Gonzalez y Gonzalez:** jirón Santa Rosa 348, Barranco.  
[www.gonzalezYGonzalez.pe](http://www.gonzalezYGonzalez.pe)
- **Lucía de la Puente:** paseo Sáenz Peña 206, Barranco.  
[www.gluciadelapuerta.com](http://www.gluciadelapuerta.com)
- **Revoluer:** calle general Recavarren 261, Miraflores.  
[www.revoluergaleria.com](http://www.revoluergaleria.com)
- **Sala Luis Miró Quesada Garland de la Municipalidad de Miraflores:** avenida Larco 450, Miraflores.
- **Wu Galería:** paseo Sáenz Peña 129, Barranco.  
[www.wugaleria.com](http://www.wugaleria.com)
- **Yvonne Sanguinetti:** avenida Grau 810, Barranco.  
[www.yvonneshanguinettigaleria.com](http://www.yvonneshanguinettigaleria.com)







# Shopping

**Taking back home a souvenir of your trip to Lima is a task not easily accomplished considering the wide variety on offer.**

Sophisticated international boutiques, jewels of Peruvian inspiration, garments of luxury fashion brands made with the finest Peruvian cotton and alpaca threads, bookstores that are a book lover's paradise, antique shops selling jewels waiting to be discovered, and gourmet shops selling ingredients that will remind your palate of the flavors of Peru.

For shopping lovers, Lima's many commercial centers have much to offer. In Miraflores, Larcomar <sup>22</sup> sits on the edge of the cliff, a particularly attractive place to shop with a view of the ocean. Peru is home to master craftsmen. Don't miss the opportunity to learn about their art. Pieces from each corner of the country can be found

in Lima's many handicraft fairs and markets, particularly in Miraflores along blocks 4800 to 5200 of Avenue Petit Thouars <sup>23</sup> and in the old downtown.

## **Shopping malls**

- Larcomar,  
Miraflores. [Miraflores.Larcomar.com](http://Miraflores.Larcomar.com)
- Jockey Plaza,  
Santiago de Surco.  
[www.jockeyplaza.com.pe](http://www.jockeyplaza.com.pe)
- Plaza San Miguel,  
San Miguel.  
[www.plazasanmiguel.com.pe](http://www.plazasanmiguel.com.pe)
- Real Plaza Salaverry,  
Jesús María.  
[www.realplaza.pe](http://www.realplaza.pe)
- Real Plaza Centro Cívico,  
Cercado de Lima.  
[www.realplaza.pe](http://www.realplaza.pe)
- Real Plaza Primavera,  
San Borja.  
[www.realplaza.pe](http://www.realplaza.pe)
- La Rambla,  
San Borja.  
[www.larambla.pe](http://www.larambla.pe)
- Inoutlet,  
Callao.  
[www.inoutlet.pe](http://www.inoutlet.pe)





# Breathe

**From the air, Lima's coast line seems painted in three hues: the ocean's blue, the earth tones along the shore and the vegetation's green of the Costa Verde, from whose cliff ocean sidewalks travelers can observe Lima's daily life.**

Of all these, the most interesting is the Miraflores ocean drive **24**, over 10 kilometers long and intersected by innumerable streets. From there breathe in the breeze of the sea and look attentively. In the distance, sports fans jog with ocean as backdrop or day excursionists picnic along the boulevard's gardens while at Love Park lovers sit gazing at a romantic sunset.

With enough time, a rental bicycle is also a great way to see the sights, but if you want to see the city from a different angle, nearby Raimondi park is the perfect spot for rental paragliding.

El Olivar (the Olive Grove) **25** in the heart of San Isidro is the ideal place for a walk among the city's oldest trees and to watch some of Lima's huge variety of birds.

Two other of the city's emblematic parks are in downtown Lima. At Reserve Park, a water, lights, music and images shows bedazzles spectators. Right to next to it is Exposition Park **26**. At the other end of the bay of Lima is La Punta **27** (the Point), a traditional district of neighboring Callao Port Province. In addition to admiring its residential architecture and enjoy fresh seafood plates, a yacht can take you to nearby Palomino Island, home to a large colony of sea lions.







# Taste

**Eating in Lima gives you the opportunity to learn about the history of a city built between the sea and a valley where peoples from many origins have settled. Perhaps the word that best defines the city is “fusion”.**

Coastal, Andean and Amazon traditions meet and meld preserving the basic principle that sitting around a table is more than just for eating; it's a time for meeting.

Peru is now regarded as the topmost gastronomic destination in South America (World Travel Awards 2016). Several of Lima's restaurants rank among the world's best (50 Best). Its cooks' creativity and ability have played a major role in this success but so do the variety and freshness of the ingredients they use. From its sea to the several landside ecological floors, Peru can boast a hugely varied and unique

pantry of resources for its cooking.

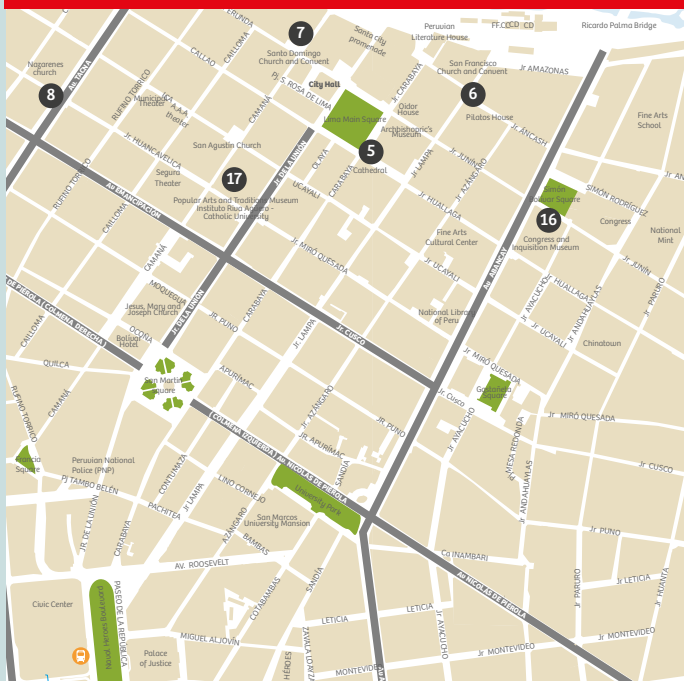
If you have tasted some of its food and were fascinated by it, a gastronomic tour is the perfect complement to your Lima experience. At the tour, you will learn about the ingredients that create its many dishes and will learn about emblematic preparations, like cebiche.



**Scan here**  
for restaurants



## Tourist attractions in historical downtown Lima (a Unesco World Heritage Site)







## Legend

- Main avenue
- Urban area
- Airport
- Port
- IPERÚ
- Hospital
- Bus stop
- Archeological site
- Historical monument
- Museum
- Cemetery
- Supper club
- Handicrafts' market
- Shopping mall
- Beach
- Surfing
- Paragliding
- Lookout
- Zoo
- Bird watching
- Wine cellar
- National Library of Peru
- Lima Convention Center
- Grand National Theater
- Natural Protected Area



Información y Asistencia al Turista  
Tourist Information and Assistance

**(51 1) 574-8000 24 horas**  
**iperu@promperu.gob.pe**

#### **JORGE CHÁVEZ INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

International arrivals, domestic flights boarding concourse, south mezzanine of. 220.

#### **LIMA**

San Isidro: Jorge Basadre 610 Avenue  
Miraflores: Centro Comercial Larcomar

#### **AREQUIPA**

Airport: Arrivals lounge  
Main Square: Portal de la  
Municipalidad 110

#### **CHACHAPOYAS**

Main Square: Jirón Ortiz Arrieta 582

#### **CHICLAYO**

City Hall: Jirón San José 823  
Museo Tumbas Reales de Sipán

#### **CUSCO**

Main Square: Portal Harinas 177  
Andean Baroque Route Information Center  
Airport: Arrivals lounge, Main Hall  
Machu Picchu town: Avenida Pachacútec,  
Primera cuadra

#### **IQUITOS**

Downtown: Jirón Napo 161  
Airport: Departure lounge

#### **NASCA**

María Reiche Newman Aerodrome

#### **PIURA**

Main Square: Cruce Ayacucho and  
Libertad street  
Airport: Departure lounge

#### **PUERTO MALDONADO**

Jirón Loreto 390  
Airport: Arrivals lounge

#### **PUNO**

Main Square: Cruce Deustua and Lima  
streets  
Airport: Arrivals lounge

#### **TRUJILLO**

Main Square: Jirón Independencia  
467, suite 106  
Luna Huaca Archeological Compound

#### **TUMBES**

Downtown: Malecón III Milenio, piso 3  
Aguas Verdes  
CEBAF Perú



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Una publicación de la Comisión de Promoción del Perú para la  
Exportación y el Turismo - PROMPERÚ.  
Calle Uno Oeste N° 50, piso 14, urb. Córpac, San Isidro, Lima-Perú  
Teléfono: (51-1) 616-7300  
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