



## Ultimate South America

### Go Beyond Tour | 28 Days | Physical Level 2

Lima – Cusco – Urubamba – Aguas Calientes – Ollantaytambo – Puno – La Paz –  
Uyuni – San Pedro de Atacama – Santiago – Valparaíso – Mendoza – Buenos  
Aires – Iguazú – Rio de Janeiro

The ultimate tour of South America, this all-encompassing journey will take you through the landscapes of Peru, Chile, Bolivia, Argentina and Brazil on an epic adventure.

- Marvel at Machu Picchu
- Discover the Salt Flats of Uyuni
- Taste wine in Maipo Valley
- Experience gaucho life in the pampas
- See the incredible Iguazú Falls
- Take a tango class in Buenos Aires



#### Ultimate South America inclusions:

- Return international economy flights, taxes and current fuel surcharges (unless a land only option is selected)
- All accommodation
- Meals as stated
- Touring with National Escort and entrance fees
- All transportation and transfers
- English speaking Local Guides
- Specialist advice from our experienced travel consultants
- Safe and secure with AFTA, ATAS and CATO

*The only thing you may have to pay for are personal expenditure e.g. drinks, optional excursions or shows, insurance of any kind, tipping, early check in or late checkout and other items not specified on the itinerary.*

#### Latin America Tours:

As with other Wendy Wu group tours, you have a National Escort travelling with the group for the entirety of the trip. Due to the distances covered and the specific guiding expertise needed for each individual place visited, you will also be accompanied by our dedicated and professional local guides, whose unparalleled knowledge will turn your holiday into an unforgettable experience.

The cost of your tour includes most meals, however on occasion you will have the opportunity for some free time around meal times to experience the local restaurants for yourself. At these times meals will be at your own expense. The meals which are included in your tour are clearly stated on each individual day of the itinerary below.

Our Latin America tours are designed for those who wish to see the iconic sites and magnificent treasures of this continent on an excellent value group tour whilst travelling with like-minded people. We are sure you will have a wonderful time - prepare to be immersed in the authentic charm of the countries you will visit.

#### Physical Level 2:

All our tours feature a physical rating to help you select the right holiday for you. To travel on any of our tours requires unaided mobility and the ability to stroll around the sights. 'Ultimate South America' is rated 2 on the physical level scale. A reasonable level of fitness is required but it's more about spending time on your feet rather than covering large distances. You'll be getting on and off coaches and boats, walking around the sights and climbing some steps.

- There will be sightseeing on foot for both short and extended periods of time
- Sightseeing will involve climbing quite a number of steps, often without handrails
- Some days will be spent at altitude, notably during your time in Cusco, Bolivia and San Pedro de Atacama

Of course, our National Escorts and local guides will always endeavour to provide the highest level of service and assistance; however, they cannot be expected to cater for customers who are unfit to complete the itinerary. If you require any more information about the pace of our tours, please contact our reservations team who will be happy to answer your questions.

## Itinerary – Ultimate South America

### Day 1: Fly to Lima

Meals included: Dinner

Fly to Peru's historical and sophisticated capital Lima, arriving the same day due to crossing the International Date Line. You will be met at the airport and transferred approximately 40 minutes to your hotel. Enjoy the rest of the afternoon at leisure before your welcome dinner this evening.

#### Destination Information

**Lima** – Sitting overlooking the Pacific in Peru's central region, Lima is a huge city of 10 million people. It was founded by conquistador Francisco Pizarro in 1535 and became the capital of the Viceroyalty of Peru, remaining as capital after the War of Independence gave Peruvians their freedom. The historic centre of the city is beautiful and was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1988.

### Day 2: Lima

Meals included: Breakfast

Originally named the City of the Kings, Lima is rich in heritage, which you'll see for yourself today. Start in the UNESCO World Heritage-listed historic centre to admire the colonial magnificence. Explore the 17<sup>th</sup> century San Francisco Monastery. Visit Casa Aliaga, a beautifully preserved colonial mansion, and finish the day at Huaca Pucilana archaeological centre.

#### Destination Information

**San Francisco Monastery** – The monastery complex, complete with church, monastery, library and catacombs, was completed in 1774 and is a prime example of Spanish Baroque architecture. Keep an eye out for Moorish designs in the central and two side naves of the church vaults.

### Day 3: Lima to Sacred Valley

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Fly from Lima to Cusco and transfer to the town of Urubamba set in Peru's famous Sacred Valley. Backed by rolling foothills and snowy peaks, it is a lovely, relaxed place to acclimatize to the altitude of the Andes. On the way visit Pisac's colourful market, and enjoy lunch made from home-grown produce with the local Chawaytire community. The rest of the day is free.



#### Destination Information

**Pisac** – Situated on the Willkanuta River, Pisac is a colonial village famous for its Incan ruins and its triweekly market. The market takes up the Plaza de Armas and surrounding streets with stalls selling ceramic, jewellery and textiles.



#### Day 4: Sacred Valley

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Spend the day in the remote village of Huilloc, approximately 40 minutes transfer from your hotel, where you'll catch a glimpse of the authentic culture of the valley's Quechua communities. You'll be able to interact with the villagers, share lunch with them and witness their day to day life. The women of Huilloc have a rich tradition of weaving which they still practice by hand today. The textiles they produce bear the same images as those of their ancestors; condors, cougars and Huallata birds, and can be purchased here. You'll also enjoy a cooking demonstration of a typical Quechua dish before having lunch with the locals. Continue onto the small town of Aguas Calientes (also known as Machu Picchu Pueblo) by Vistadome train for your overnight stay. This day is at altitude.

##### Destination Information

**Aguas Calientes** – Just 110km from Cusco, Aguas Calientes is in a unique setting, being surrounded by stone cliffs and forest on all sides. The town was founded in 1901 as a camp for labourers and their families working on the nearby railroad to connect Cusco to the mine of Santa Ana. Nowadays, Aguas Calientes more commonly serves as the gateway for travellers to Machu Picchu.

#### Day 5: Train to Machu Picchu

Meals included: Breakfast

This morning you will ascend to the Incan citadel of Machu Picchu by shuttle bus, which takes about 30 minutes along winding roads. Long abandoned by the Inca, it came to international attention when it was stumbled upon by Hiram Bingham in 1911, and is considered one of the New 7 Wonders of the World. A guided tour will give you some insight into the Inca Empire. This includes up to four hours of sightseeing, walking on uneven terrain. Return to the village of Machu Picchu before riding the train back to Poroy followed by your transfer to Cusco. This day is at altitude. *Please see **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT MACHU PICCHU** in this document.*



##### Destination Information

**Machu Picchu** – One of the world's great archaeological discoveries, Machu Picchu sits on a mountain ridge 2430 metres above the Sacred Valley. Built around 1450, it was abandoned about 100 years later, and left 'undiscovered' (the local people knew of it) until 1911 when it was brought to international attention. A classic example of Incan style, there are three main structures – the Temple of the Sun, the Inti Watana and the Room of Three Windows.

#### Day 6: Cusco

Meals included: Breakfast

Home to an incredible Incan legacy, Cusco has some of the richest heritage in Latin America and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The tour will include visits to the Plaza de Armas, once the heart of the Incan capital of Huacaypata; and Qoricancha, the temple of the sun. Head just out of town to the ruins of Sacsayhuaman and Puka Pukara, the 'Red Fortress'. This afternoon you have as time at leisure. This day is at altitude.



## Destination Information

**Cusco** – Home to an incredible Incan legacy, Cusco has some of the richest heritage in Latin America and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Cathedrals and Inca temples overlook the narrow streets where alpaca knitwear can be bought for a fair price. For anyone interested in the Incan civilization, Cusco is the must-see destination.

## Day 7: Cusco to Puno

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Take a train through the magnificent scenery of the Andean altiplano from Cusco to Puno, a city on the shores of Lake Titicaca. The journey time is 10 hours and 30 minutes, and the train boasts dining cars, a bar car and an observation car; and a gourmet lunch of the finest Andean ingredients is included. Check in to your hotel and enjoy the evening at leisure. Today you will be at an altitude of up to 3830 metres.

## Destination Information

**Puno** – A beautiful and charming town located on the banks of Lake Titicaca. The town is home to traditional Andean architecture which spreads down from the sides of the hill to the banks of the lake.

**Lake Titicaca** – The largest lake in South America and the world's highest navigable body of water, it is surrounded by a slow pace of life where crops are still harvested by hand and vast plateaus stretch for miles.

## Day 8: Puno to Lake Titicaca

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Depart Puno and take an overland journey of approx. two hours and 30 minutes to the town of Copacabana, located just across the border in Bolivia. You will disembark your coach for a brief visit to Copacabana Sanctuary.

You will continue on to the harbour where you will board a Catamaran to sail to Sun Island, the birthplace of the Inca Empire. On this legendary island you will visit the Inca Garden, Stairs and Fountain. Continue on with a visit to the Inti Wata Cultural Complex which includes sites such as the two underground Museums of Archaeology and Anthropology, the Pachamama agricultural Inca Terraces and the Intica Lounge. This Inti Wata Complex is the main attraction in Bolivia, available only to Catamaran Cruise Ship clients and includes a unique sailing experience on board a huge Titicaca traditional reed vessel for a panoramic visit to the Pilkokaina Inca Palace. Enjoy lunch onboard before crossing the Tiquina strait overlooking the native-made pontoons used to transport vehicles.



Spend the night on the Catamaran Cruise where dinner will be served. Star gaze the evening away or watch sunrise from the top deck.

## Destination Information

**Copacabana** – Nestled between Mount Nino Calvario and Mount Calvario on the southern shore of Lake Titicaca, the quirky little town of Copacabana is well-known throughout Bolivia as being a centre for religious pilgrimages, with centuries-old festivals still being celebrated to this day. Many tourists do come here each February specifically to celebrate the festival of the Virgin of Candelaria, though generally Copacabana is a more convenient stop-off for travellers making the journey from Puno to Bolivia's capital.

### Day 9: La Paz

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Depart this morning for La Paz. You will visit the famous Witches Market, San Francisco Colonial Church and Sagarnaca Street to see the typical handicrafts here. Continue to Plaza Murillo where you will find the Cathedral, the Government's Palace and the National Congress building. Visit the Killi Killi Lookout point before enjoying a cable car journey from La Paz to El Alto. You will head through the residential areas of Obrajes, Calacoto and La Florida before finishing the day in the unique Moon Valley, an area of tall clay spires, formed by erosions of the mountains in the area. You will have the opportunity to explore, plus visit a ceramic workshop to watch a demonstration of how pottery is made here.



#### Destination Information

**La Paz** – Resting at an altitude of 3,660 metres, La Paz is one of the highest cities in the world. It is therefore important to take time to acclimatize. La Paz is one of the fastest growing cities in Latin America. The tradition is rich and lively markets are ever-present with some of the finest alpaca knitwear to be found.

### Day 10: La Paz to Uyuni

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Transfer to the airport and fly to Uyuni. The Salar de Uyuni is the world's largest salt flat, 10,000 square kilometres and one of South America's most remarkable landscapes. Completely flat and covered by a thick white salt crust, just a few inches of water perfectly reflect the mood of the sky and the vast expanses of nothing play tricks on the eyes! Start exploring straight away, visiting the Train Cemetery and then Colchani Village where you will observe the process of salt extraction by hand. After, you have a stop at the Salt Museum at Playa Blanca then onto visit the ancient mummies of Tunupa Volcano on Incahuasi Island. After your tour, you will check into your hotel – made entirely out of salt - where you will spend the night.



#### Destination Information

**Salar de Uyuni** – The area's unique landscape was a result of the now-extinct lake suffering from a lack of drainage in the earth. The high salt content here meant that once the lake's water evaporated, a thick layer of salt remained. This geographical phenomenon is now one of Bolivia's most iconic sights, and a must see for any traveller.



### Day 11: Uyuni to San Pedro de Atacama

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Today you will bid farewell to Bolivia as you transfer to San Pedro de Atacama, Chile. This day is at altitude.

#### Destination Information

**San Pedro de Atacama** - San Pedro de Atacama is a town sitting in the Andes mountains of North East Chile. The dramatic surrounding landscape incorporates desert, salt flats, volcanoes, geysers and hot springs. Interestingly, San Pedro de Atacama is the driest place on earth!

### Day 12: Atacama Desert

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

This morning, drive out into the otherworldly landscapes to visit the Salar de Atacama and the quaint desert village of Tocoano. This afternoon, you'll see some of San Pedro's most famous landscapes with a drive out to Death and Moon valleys, some of the driest spots on the planet. With lonely volcanoes populating the horizon, enjoy the views and the silence as the afternoon sun's rays turn the hues of the rock from orange, to red to purple.



#### Destination Information

**Salar de Atacama** – The largest salt flat in Chile is an intriguing natural phenomenon. The basin was formed by evaporated water which flowed down from the Andes. There are numerous lakes within the basin, some of which are home to frolicking flocks of flamingos.

**Moon Valley** – The Moon Valley is a vast lunar backdrop of scattered hills in the Atacama Desert. The Valley is at its most impressive at sunset and sunrise when the sunlight creates a magical series of colours from orange to purple and pink.

### Day 13: El Tatio

Meals included: Breakfast

Rise early and travel for around 2 hours deeper into the Atacama to visit El Tatio Geysers. Set within a ring of volcanoes, there are about 80 lively geysers and fumaroles, which are at best at sunrise. Have a guided walk amongst the mud craters and small bubbling geysers. Wander freely before travelling through the Andes Mountain Range with impressive views of Putama Volcano and Tocopuri Mountains. Visit the small desert village of Machuca to see the typical terrace farming system, mud houses with straw rooves, and its local fauna such as llamas, alpacas and flamingoes. This afternoon, return to San Pedro and transfer to Calama to fly to Chile's capital city, Santiago. Today is a full day touring. This day you will be reaching an Altitude of 4320 metres above sea level for a short period of time.



### Day 14: Santiago

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

This morning embark on a city tour which will allow you to experience its eclectic contrasts. Stroll around the Plaza de Armas and the Cathedral to admire the colonial facades, before walking down Ahumada Boulevard, the city's main commercial street. Explore the bohemian Bellavista by road and drive up San Cristobal Hill for views over the city and the towering Andes Mountains. Finish the tour in the modern area of Santiago to wander the chic neighbourhoods. Your afternoon is at leisure.



#### Destination Information

**Santiago** - Santiago is a vibrant and cultural city set on the plains of the Andes and home to 40% of Chile's population. Split into 32 boroughs (comunas), each area has its own distinct character, yet all the streets are alive with the energy of the city.

### Day 15: Valparaiso

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Travel 3 hours to the coast to visit the bohemian port town of Valparaiso. Designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Valparaiso is a unique and delightful tangle, draped over a series of hills. Funiculars connect the industrial seafront with the cerros (hill) neighborhoods, each a maze of colourful, artfully-dilapidated mansions and enchanting street art. Ride the funicular up into the hills to explore, stopping for a visit to Chilean poet Pablo Neruda's house. Return to Santiago this afternoon.



#### Destination Information

**Valparaíso** – Overlooked by an imperious hillside and set on a wide bay, Valparaiso is considered to be the most captivating and unique city in Chile. Designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2003, the colourful houses are dotted across the hillside in a haphazard, disorganised fashion and the main method of getting up and down through the city is on the city's old funicular lifts.

### Day 16: Santiago to Mendoza

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Today you'll embark on a spectacular 6-hour journey by road from Santiago through the Andes to the Argentinian city of Mendoza. Passing through magnificent mountain landscapes, across desert plains, alongside raging rivers and around colourful lakes, you'll also get to see South America's tallest mountain, Aconcagua. Arrive in Mendoza; a lively, laidback and atmospheric city, Mendoza is the hub of Argentina's wine production.





## Day 17: Mendoza

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Head just outside of the city to Maipu, the heart of one of Argentina's most important and oldest wine growing regions. From here you'll visit some of the region's most prominent wineries, tasting some wonderful wines, including Argentina's most famous red, Malbec, as well as enjoying a delicious lunch.



### Destination Information

**Mendoza** – Famed for its many red wines such as Malbecs, Mendoza is the gateway to Argentina's best bodegas (wineries).

## Day 18: Mendoza to Buenos Aires

Meals included: Breakfast

Enjoy a relaxed city tour of Mendoza before flying to Argentina's flamboyant capital, Buenos Aires. The flight will take approximately an hour and a half and upon arrival you will be transferred to your hotel.

### Destination Information

**Buenos Aires** - The Paris of South America, Buenos Aires is a romantic and lively city. The culture of the city is extremely diverse and the asado (barbecue) restaurants are second to none. Most importantly of all, Buenos Aires is the home of Tango and performers can be seen dancing in restaurants, bars or even on the streets.

## Day 19: Buenos Aires

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

After breakfast, enjoy the irresistible combination of Latin flair and European elegance on a Buenos Aires city tour. Your tour will last approximately 5 hours. Visit the vibrant districts of La Boca, San Telmo, Puerto Madero, Palermo and Recoleta. This evening sit down for dinner and an exciting tango show.



## Day 20: The Pampas

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Spend the day just outside the city on the vast, fertile grasslands known as the pampas, on a traditional estancia (ranch). Here you'll get some insight into the life of folk heroes, the gaucho and after a typical Argentinian asado lunch, there will be a fun folklore show.



### Day 21: Buenos Aires to Iguazu

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner

Say farewell to Buenos Aires and transfer 30 minutes to the airport to board your plane over to Puerto Iguazu, the town closest to the incredible wonder that is Iguacu Falls. Your flight is just under 2 hours, and a transfer will take you from the airport to your hotel. You have the rest of the day at leisure.



#### **Destination Information**

**Iguazu Falls** - The incredible Iguazu Falls spans the border of Argentina and Brazil and features hundreds of rushing cascades, set in a lush rainforest scene. The region has been declared a world heritage site and received the status of one of the New Seven Wonders of Nature in 2011.

### Day 22: Iguazu (Argentina)

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner

Today, transfer 25 minutes to the falls. You will wander along the Argentinian side of Iguazu, which offers a fantastic overview of the whole of the falls, and showcases its power and magnificence. Don't miss the viewpoint of one of the falls' most impressive sights, the Garganta del Diablo. Take the Ecological Jungle Train, a 15 minute journey, which takes you to the most impressive observation point – the Devil's Throat. This afternoon, take a unique opportunity to learn about the indigenous culture of the *Mbororé Aldea* people, who open the doors to their community to share fascinating stories of their ancestors, rituals, myths and legends. Sightseeing today will be a full day with around 6 hours on foot.

### Day 23: Iguacu (Brazil) to Rio de Janeiro

Meals included: Breakfast

This morning you'll cross the border to visit the Brazilian side of the falls. Wander the paths and catwalks to numerous smaller cascades that dance their way along gullies and through lush greenery.

Bid farewell to the falls before hopping on a plane for a 2 hour flight to Brazil's 'Cidade Maravilhosa', Rio de Janeiro. Upon arrival you will be transferred to your hotel for a 3 night stay. The rest of the evening is at your leisure.



#### **Destination Information**

**Rio de Janeiro** – Founded in 1565, the city became the capital of the Portuguese Empire from 1815 – 1822 after the royal family fled their homeland following the conquests of Napoleon. Nowadays, this city is famous for its beaches, lush scenery and samba fuelled nightlife. Rio is also home to Christ the Redeemer and the impressive Sugar Loaf Mountain, both of which you will experience on this tour.

## Day 24: Rio de Janeiro

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Climb onboard a jeep to venture to some of Rio's many wonders! Drive about 20 minutes to Cosme Velho Street, then in Paineiras station transfer into a van to ascend the Corcovado, on the peak of which Christ the Redeemer watches over the city. On the way you will pass through the lush vegetation of the Tijuca Forest. You can take the steps at the final stage to Christ the Redeemer, however there is an escalator if you'd prefer.



Enjoy a delicious Brazilian barbecue lunch before continuing to Aterro do Flamengo, transfer about 20 minutes to the neighbourhood of Urca where you will ascend to the heights of Sugarloaf Mountain by cable car. The first cable car will take you 215 metres high. From there, board the second which will lead you to breath taking views at the top of the Sugar Loaf Mountain, 395 metres high. Take in the incredible sights of the Guanabara Bay and its islands, Rio-Nitero Bridge and Corcovado.

### Destination Information

**Corcovado** – Originally known as *Pinaculo da Tentacao*, or Pinnacle of Temptation, Corcovado mountain is a 710m granite peak overlooking Rio, and is easily one of Brazil's most iconic landmarks. It is surrounded by the Tijuca Forest and is home to Christ the Redeemer.

**Sugar Loaf Mountain** – Known as Pao de Acucar in Portuguese, Sugarloaf Mountain sits at the entrance of Guanabara Bay and is named for its unusual shape as it resembles a traditional form of sugar widely used two centuries ago. Your cable car journey will take you to the summit of the mountain, where you will take in the magnificent views from a height 395 metres. This is an awe-inspiring site, and one that is popular not just with locals and tourists but rock climbers also, as the mountain is one of the largest and most popular urban rock-climbing destinations in the world, featuring over 270 different routes to the top.

## Day 25: Rio de Janeiro

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner

Enjoy a free day to take in the sights and sounds of the wonderful Rio. You could spend the day at one of the city's famous beaches or explore a bit farther independently. This evening, meet up with the group for a farewell dinner at a vibrant Brazilian steakhouse.



## Days 26-28: Depart Rio de Janeiro

Meals included: Breakfast

Today fly out of Rio de Janeiro for Australia. Arrive home in 2 days due to crossing the International Date Line once again.



## Ultimate South America Travel Information

### Visas

Australian passport holders currently do not require a visa to the countries we visit on this tour - Peru, Chile, Bolivia, Argentina and Brazil. Your passport needs to be valid for at least 6 months beyond your intended return date to Australia. To stay up to date with the latest visa requirements, visit [www.smartraveller.gov.au](http://www.smartraveller.gov.au)

### Insurance

It is a condition of booking with us that you take out suitable travel insurance. You must provide us with the name of your insurer, policy number and their 24-hour emergency contact number when you book with us or as soon as possible thereafter. These details will be available to your local guides should they be required. Wendy Wu Tours will not be liable for any costs incurred by you due to your failure to take out suitable travel insurance from the date of booking.

### Altitude

On this tour you will be spending several nights at altitude, and this will be marked on your day by day itinerary. At these sort of altitudes, Altitude Sickness is a risk. Symptoms may include dizziness, fatigue, nausea and shortness of breath. It is recommended that travellers utilize their first day in high-altitude destinations to acclimatise. To help you acclimatise we have designed our tours to be at a slower pace with more convenient stops and more free time, during the first few days. Staying hydrated, eating light meals and following a very light schedule will all help. We recommend that any symptoms that are unusual should be brought to the attention of your guide. Your guide will be extremely well-trained in dealing with its effects – taking it easy and taking some time to acclimatise are the best ways to prevent and combat it. Serious cases, meaning that you must descend immediately, are rare. We have adapted the itinerary to make sure that your time at these heights is as relaxed and easy as possible.

There are no specific factors, such as age or fitness, that can cause you to suffer from Altitude Sickness. It can affect anyone at any time and symptoms may vary. In some instances, a short spell on oxygen can help enormously. All the hotels that we have selected to use on our programmes provide oxygen free of charge, please ask to use this. There is medication - such as Diamox, and the local Peruvian version, Soroche pills - that can help treat and prevent symptoms. Consult a doctor before taking any of these medications, before engaging in strenuous activity at high altitude, and regarding any necessary vaccinations in plenty of time before travelling.

### Eating in South America

South American cuisine is some of the most eclectic in the world, and each country has its own regional specialties worth sampling. If you've got the stomach and curiosity, make your way to vibrant food markets, which sell everything from fresh produce and exotic fruits to hearty dishes. When in Peru, you can't skip sampling ceviche or a pisco sour and while visiting Argentina, don't miss digging into a hearty steak paired with a classic Malbec.

Drinking bottled water and eating well-cooked food is strongly recommended. It's much safer to stick to bottled, treated or boiled water. Ice, along with salads or fruits washed in tap water should likewise be avoided.

Whilst we strongly recommend trying as many local dishes as possible, a lot of places you visit will also have a wide range of international foods available.

### Accommodation

Your accommodation is selected for convenience of location, comfort or character, and can range from business hotels to rainforest lodges. Hotels are generally rated as local three to four-star standard, but please note that there is no international classification system for hotels and differences in facilities and quality may exist between Australia and South America. All group tour hotels have private bathroom facilities and air conditioning where needed. If you experience any difficulty, please speak to your Local Guide. Rest assured that all hotels used by Wendy Wu Tours are regularly inspected by our staff and our partners to ensure that standards meet your needs.

### Clothing

On this tour, you will be travelling through various regions of the continent with very diverse climates. You will almost certainly experience all four seasons in one trip. It is recommended to bring lots of layers including the following: T Shirts made of breathable materials, hiking trousers with the option to turn into a shorts, a fleece jacket for colder parts and the evenings and a waterproof jacket as shell layer or a light rain jacket, a scarf and hat, warm socks, sensible walking shoes and small back pack that fits into your main hand luggage to carry your daily essentials. Keep in mind also that early in the morning on day 14, temperatures at El Tatio Geysers can be as low as -8 degrees Celsius, so you will need to prepare clothing to combat the cold in the morning, and lighter clothing for later in the day when temperatures rise.

### Transport

**Coaches:** Coaches with air conditioning are used on our group tours, for city short excursions to the countryside and longer transfers between destinations. Roads in Chile have generally been improved over recent years, but please be aware traffic and/or weather conditions may extend driving times. There may be sections of road where the surface may be comparatively bumpy, but our drivers will do their utmost to lessen the impact.

**Planes:** Internal flights are based on economy class, with reputable airlines. Within South America flights are often changed multiple times before departure, both timings and flight numbers. The utmost care will be taken to ensure that your final documents will have the latest information, however your local guide will confirm this in destination. Boarding passes can be collected directly at the airport. The flights booked as part of your itinerary will always reflect the best timings to suit the touring itinerary, with direct flights wherever possible, however due to limited schedules some flights may require a fairly early departure or late arrival.

### Important Information about Machu Picchu

You must provide full name, date of birth, nationality and passport number to us at time of booking. Visitors must bring their passport with them to be allowed entry to Machu Picchu and this must match the information provided to us in advance.

Hand luggage on board train to the citadel should not exceed 5kgs and measure no more than 40 cm x 35 cm x 20 cm. You will need to bring an overnight bag of this size for your one-night stay at Machu Picchu on day 6.

The following items are **not allowed** in – single use plastics, professional cameras (i.e. equipment that needs accessories for its use such as tripods) and cameras that have magnifying lenses exceeding 2kg; drones; selfie sticks; walking sticks without a rubber tip; aerosol sprays; high heeled shoes; sharp objects; banners or posters.

### Souvenirs

There are plenty of interesting bits and pieces to buy as souvenirs in all the visited destinations, such as indigenous textiles in Peru, handicrafts and artworks. There will be some opportunities during your tour to pick up souvenirs.

### Group Size

Most of our groups consist of 14 travellers or more and will be accompanied by a National Escort and Local Guides. There will usually be no more than 20 travellers in each group.

All our departures are guaranteed to operate with a minimum of 8 travellers booked (unless cancelled due to factors beyond our control). However, at our discretion we may operate departures with a smaller group size as we try to operate advertised departures wherever it is viable to do so.

### Tipping Policy

Tipping while on holiday is common in most parts of the world and South America is no exception. We will provide suggested tipping amounts with your final documents for your convenience; however tipping is entirely at your own discretion.

### Luggage

All travellers are limited to two items of luggage each, a suitcase with a maximum weight of 20kg and one piece of hand luggage with a maximum weight of five kilograms. It is essential that your luggage is lockable. Please note that authorities will only allow bottles onto the aircraft if they have been checked in as main baggage. Bottles in hand luggage may be confiscated. Please note luggage restrictions apply when travelling to Machu Picchu by Rail, please refer to the information listed under IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT MACHU PICCHU in this document.



### After your booking

Once you have booked with Wendy Wu Tours, you will receive an email with your confirmation invoice, along with a link to our website where you can find your visa information (if applicable) and other important

### Itinerary changes

information. Your final documentation pack will be sent to you approximately 2 weeks prior to departure. It is our intention to adhere to the day-to-day itinerary as printed; however, the order of events or sightseeing may change as we look to improve our tours or as local conditions dictate; in these circumstances we will make the best possible arrangements whilst maintaining the integrity of your trip.

### Optional Activities

Please note that any optional activities offered and booked in destination are not recommended or organised by Wendy Wu Tours and therefore should be undertaken at the customers' own risk. You may also be required to sign a waiver form before any of these such activities.

**Last updated: December 2019**