



# HEART OF THE MARAÑÓN

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7 DAYS RAFTING THE GRAND CANYON OF PERU





# 8D/8N OF ADVENTURE

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This trip has it all: the colourful culture of the high Andes, heartwarming visits to remote riverside villages, ancient rock paintings, waterfalls and natural swimming holes in lush Amazonas jungle and the unforgettable experience of whitewater rafting through the Grand Canyon of South America.

- Expert guides.
- Knowledge of the stunning landscape, wildlife and local culture.
- Small group sizes and regular departures (minimum of 4 people required to confirm departure).
- Locally sourced produce and gourmet menu.
- Close relationships with local riverside communities and foster positive exchanges on both sides.
- Active steward for the Marañon river and local environment.





# INCLUSIONS

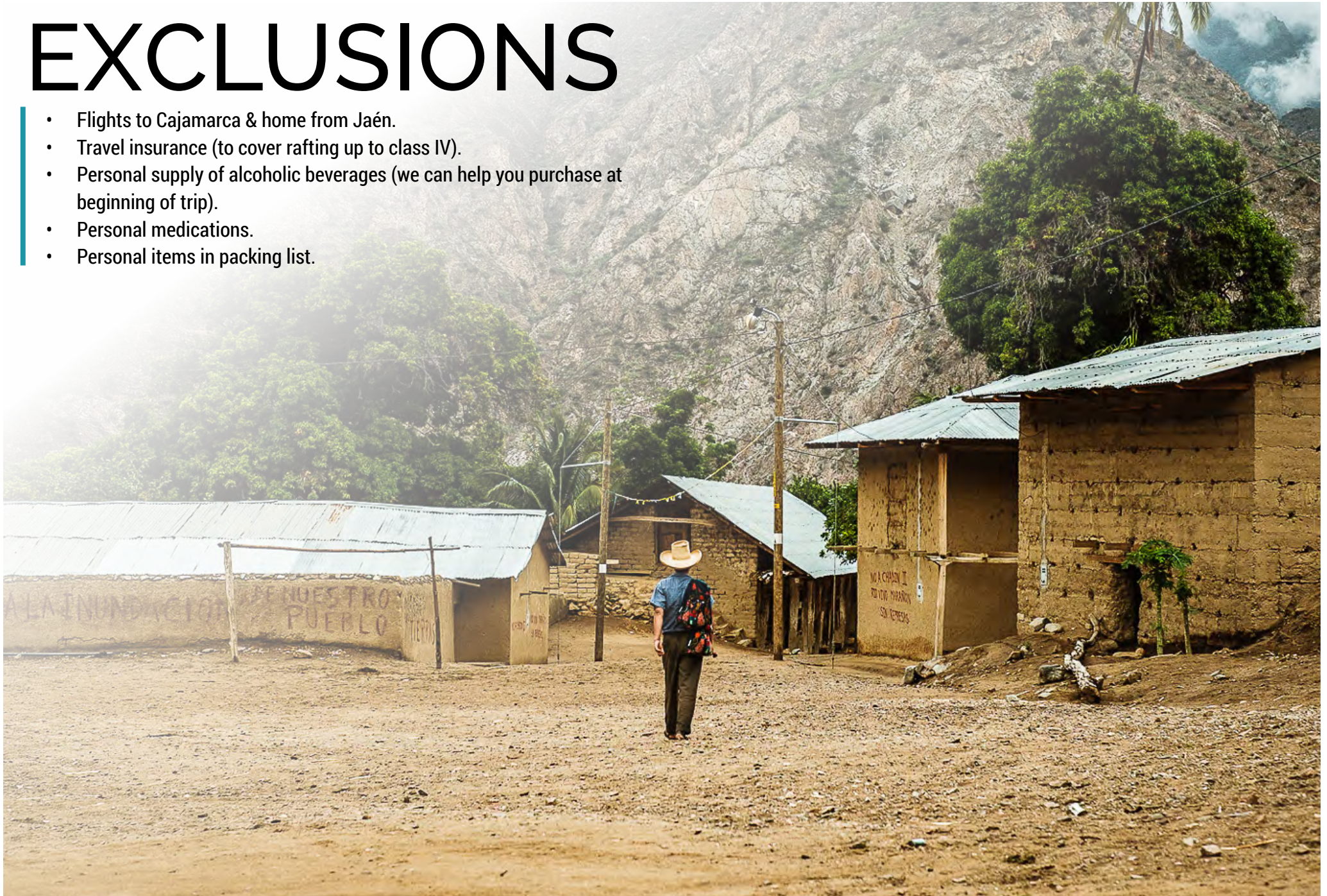
- Professional guiding.
- 7 days whitewater rafting & all equipment.
- All meals gourmet and delicious.
- Selection of alcoholic beverages.
- 6 nights tented accommodation while on river (twin share).
- 2 nights hotel for arrival and departure.
- Drybag for your personal belongings.
- Expedition first aid and emergency communications.



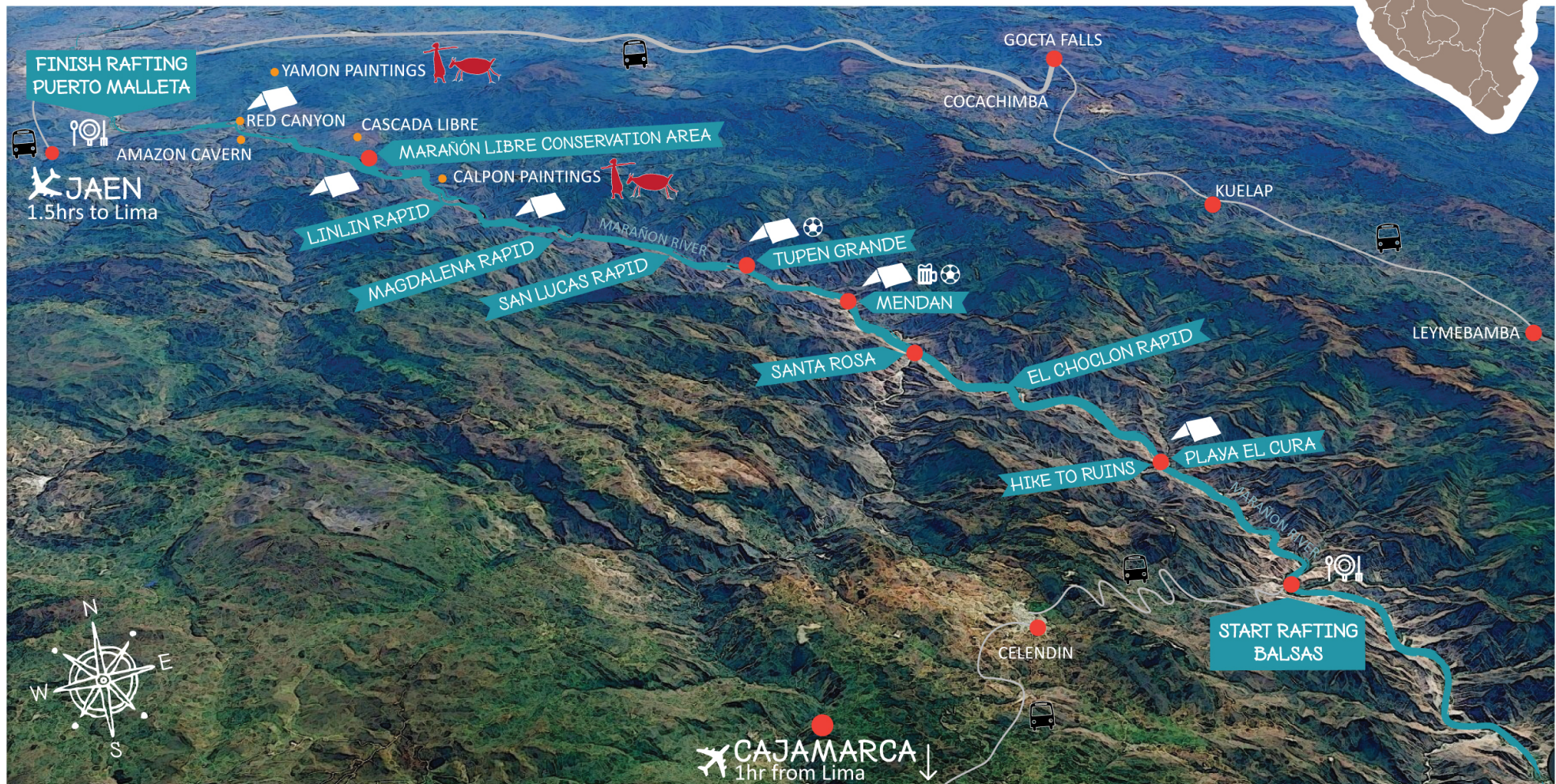


# EXCLUSIONS

- Flights to Cajamarca & home from Jaén.
- Travel insurance (to cover rafting up to class IV).
- Personal supply of alcoholic beverages (we can help you purchase at beginning of trip).
- Personal medications.
- Personal items in packing list.







\*Map does not include many of the rapids you will encounter on this 140km rafting journey.



# WHEN?

Most people visit late May to October when the weather is perfect (warm, sunny, low chance of rain) and the water level is safe to navigate this section of river.

To confirm a departure, we require at least 4 confirmed guests.

Check our [website](#) for planned departures, or contact us to suggest your own departure dates

[contact@maranonexperience.com](mailto:contact@maranonexperience.com)





# CAMP LIFE

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Our guides know where the best beaches and campsites are, ensuring that you always have a stunning vista to enjoy your morning tea or coffee.

All drinking water comes from springs or side creeks and is filtered & treated.

Campfires most evenings; sit back enjoy the sunset and the stars. Camp toilet system to ensure human waste is disposed of discreetly & sustainably.





# CUISINE

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Our gourmet menu consists of a mixture of international and traditional Peruvian recipes which will keep everyone satisfied. Many organic products are sourced from nearby conservation areas and local communities, supporting protection of Peru's forests, and giving you the best, freshest tastes!



# ACCOMODATIONS

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While on river we stay in tent. A three person tent can be shared between two people, allowing plenty of space to spread out. Tents are provided, but you are welcome to bring your own lightweight hiking tent if you prefer. We include a delux sleeping pad, sleeping bag, inner sheet and pillow for each participant.





# CULTURE

One thing that sets the Marañón apart from other river journeys is the Andean culture and unique exchange that happens along the river.

Villages of Tupén and Mendán are nestled alongside the Marañón River, 8 hours walk from the nearest road.

Local people are welcoming and always happy to chat, and the kids love a friendly game of soccer or volleyball.

We regularly contribute to local development, community health centers and schools. We firmly believe that a positive exchange on both sides will lead to the best possible experience for guests, and the best outcomes for communities.





# TRIP NOTES

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The following trip notes aim to be as accurate as possible. Due to the nature of rafting a wild river, some changes may occur on your trip.

We have allowed enough time in the itinerary to enjoy any unexpected opportunities, or to overcome any unforeseen hurdles.

Contact us if you have any queries or would like a customized journey.





# DAY 1

## ARRIVALS

Upon arrival to Cajamarca Airport a private taxi will be waiting to take you to Hotel Laguna Seca, a hotel fit for the president of Peru. Don't be alarmed if the hotel is steaming when you arrive- it is built on top of a hot spring and has dozens of hot pools and creeks flowing through. You can enjoy one of the large hot pools with friends, or retreat for a relaxing hot-spring fed bath in the privacy of your own room.

If you're feeling active you can head into downtown Cajamarca and wander through the city marveling at its colonial architecture, vibrant Andean textiles and delicious local cheese.

We will meet in lobby of Laguna Seca at 6pm for a welcome dinner and briefing about the adventure to come. (\*Note- sometimes due to group consensus we move the briefing to one of the hot-pools...)

**10-minute transfer to hotel.**

# DAY 2

After breakfast we travel over Peruvian highlands before descending deep into the Marañon Canyon.

When we reach the river, we will have lunch and load up the gear, but not before enjoying a cold coconut. Expert guides will give safety briefings and begin training the crew for the rapids ahead. The journey truly starts when we pass under the bridge and plunge into the Balsas rapid (III), just a taste of what is to come. A short way downstream we will complete a set of rescue drills, allowing each raft crew to unite as a team and prepare for the journey ahead. As a passenger, you will be travelling in a 16' oar assisted raft, guided by a highly trained and experienced river guide.

2 hours /16km Rafting

**4hr scenic drive over the Andes and into Marañon Canyon. Altitude Loss: 1900m. 2 hours /16km Rafting.**





## DAY 3



Optional sunrise hike to cliff-top ruins at Playa el Cura which overlook the river canyon.

1.5 hours / 2km steep/difficult hike.

After the hike we continue downriver, encountering several class II-III rapids as we wind our way through the geological wonder that is the Marañón Canyon. You won't forget that you are in a remote, wild canyon, especially if we encounter strong afternoon winds that are notorious in this stretch. Today we aim to reach the village of Mendán, where we can find coconuts, seasonal fruits, a tour of the village and a cold beer of course!

The village is friendly and welcoming, we will enjoy a home cooked meal in town, and most likely the kids will be keen for a game of soccer (they may be small, but they will give most visitors a run for their money!). The hardest part is sometimes saying goodbye to the new friends we find in town.

**6 hours/ 29km Rafting with breaks. Evening village visit.**

## DAY 4

After a lazy morning and an indulgent breakfast, we have a short float full of fun, continuous class III rapids until we reach the village of Tupén. In the afternoon we have the option to explore the area. It's an enchanting walk through the fields until we reach the city center and visit the schools. The kids are always excited to practice english, share a game of soccer or show off their incredible treehouse! There are more challenging hikes available for adventurous guests, just let your guide know!

**1.5hr / 8km Rafting, afternoon village experience.**





# DAY 5

Today is a huge day of whitewater. We encounter a handful of notable class III-IV rapids including 'Tupén Grande', 'San Lucas', 'Playa el Inca' and 'Shingate' and 'Magdalena' We will also pass by the proposed Chadin II dam site, giving thanks to the local people who fought hard to keep this iconic river running beautiful and free. Tonight we will camp on a stunning deserted beach in the heart of the canyon, deep between canyon walls.

27km / 6 hours Rafting with breaks

# DAY 6

Today we float the deepest and most isolated part of the canyon. Keep your eyes focused on the scenery as vegetation and rock subtly changes to lush jungle. Soon we arrive at LinLin, the largest rapid we will encounter on this section of the river. After the adrenalin of LinLin, we will bounce through several more rapids before arriving at Marañon Libre Conservation Area. Here we can relax early and enjoy one of the most stunning sunsets and vistas of the trip.

38km / 6 hours Rafting with breaks





# DAY 7

After breakfast we explore the geological phenomenon that is 'Las Cascadas'. Dozens of natural pools and waterfalls that cascade into the Marañón canyon. There is nothing better than soaking in an infinity pool while you take in the stunning view over the Marañón Valley.

From Marañón Libre, it is a short float down to Tingo Palaguas where we can visit the Carrasco family. In 2019 the Carrascos found ancient Rock Paintings situated in an isolated corner of their property overlooking

the Marañón. Preliminary studies estimate that these paintings are over 1000 years old and were created by the Chachapoyan people.

In the afternoon we navigate through arguably one of the most scenic sections of the entire Marañón River. Red walled sandstone and lush green shrubs clinging to cliffs give an unmistakable prehistoric feel. Tonight, we camp in the heart of the Red Canyon.

**4 hours hiking, exploring waterfalls & natural pools / 9km/2hr Rafting**





# DAY 8

After navigating the final rapids of our journey, we will arrive to Puerto Malleta for a celebratory lunch then say goodbye to our river family. There are two options from here:

## Departures:

Guests who are not coming to Kingdom of the Clouds will travel 2 hours to Jaen and can arrange to book a flight Jaen-Lima after 5pm; or stay the night with us in Jaen for a farewell dinner and comfy hotel.

**2.5hours /17km Rafting. 2 hour scenic drive to Jaén**

## Continuing to Kingdom of the Clouds:

After lunch and saying goodbye to our river family, we take private transport for four hours to the village of Cocachimba. On the drive we will enjoy stunning views of the Shipago and Colan mountain ranges as we leave the dry forests of the Marañón behind. Once in Cocachimba, we will arrive to our beautiful lodgings surrounded by native cloudforest. Cocachimba will be our base for the next 3 nights as we explore the Kingdom of the Clouds.

**2.5hours /17km Rafting. 4 hour scenic drive to Cocachimba**

*See Kingdom of the Clouds Brochure for information about the following 3 days.*





# PRICING

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## HEART OF THE MARAÑON

7 Days Rafting (9D/8N Package)

**US\$2090.00**

## 140km ANDES TO AMAZON

7 Days Rafting + 3 Days Hiking & Cultural Exploration (11D/10N)

**US\$2440.00**





# BEFORE YOU GO **CHECK LIST:**

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- ☐ Have you purchased travel insurance?
- ☐ Have you spoken to a doctor about necessary immunizations & travel medications?
- ☐ Have you filled out the trip forms? (emergency contact details & personal details)
- ☐ Have you booked your flights?





# PACKING LIST

At the start of the journey everyone will be provided with a 60L Drybag to store your belongings.

Everything we take should be necessary for the journey, please read the packing list carefully and avoid unnecessary items due to limited space on rafts.

High value or irreplaceable items, Aerosol cans, Glass Containers of any kind and/or excessive amounts of soap should be avoided.

## PERSONAL ITEMS:

- ☐ Daypack (small) or fanny pack
- ☐ Water bottle with a locking carabiner (To clip onto raft throughout the day. Carabiner must be able to lock when clipped onto raft)
- ☐ Headlamp or flashlight with batteries (rechargeable is ok)
- ☐ Sunglasses with securing strap
- ☐ Toiletries (natural ingredients & biodegradable where possible)
- ☐ Small towel and washcloth
- ☐ Sunscreen and lip balm: waterproof and SPF 30 or higher (travel size)
- ☐ Moisturizer for hands and face. (travel size)
- ☐ Insect repellent (non-DEET repellent is preferable, can buy in Peru)
- ☐ Small personal first aid kit with band-aids, antibiotic ointment, ibuprofen, diarrhea & anti-nausea medication, etc.
- ☐ A spare pair of glasses or contacts if you use these (It is possible that water and sand can cause problems for people using contacts)

## FOOTWEAR:

- ☐ On River shoes (Water shoes or sandals)
- ☐ Lightweight Hiking boots or Shoes (for side hikes)
- ☐ Sandals or flip-flops for around camp
- ☐ Socks
- ☐ Neoprene or wool socks for the river (optional)

## CLOTHING

- ☐ Long-sleeved shirt & long pants for off river
- ☐ Long pants or shorts + leggings & long sleeve shirt for on river (long sleeves & pants important for sun and bug protection)
- ☐ Medium weight fleece, sweater or jacket
- ☐ T-shirt and/or lightweight quick-dry top
- ☐ Board Shorts
- ☐ Undergarments as many as required for the trip
- ☐ Bathing suit

## OPTIONAL ITEMS:

- ☐ Lightweight Jacket, windproof and waterproof. (highly recommended if travelling in wet season November-May)!

- ☐ Tent. (Tents are provided, however feel free to bring your own lightweight shelter if you prefer.)
- ☐ Sarong
- ☐ Bandana and Bug Net
- ☐ Camera (spare battery recommended) and/or Binoculars.
- ☐ Paddling gloves for sun & water protection
- ☐ Reading, writing, drawing, painting materials
- ☐ Small travel-sized game
- ☐ Cap or visor that can fit under a helmet

## WHILE IN KINGDOM OF THE CLOUDS:

- ☐ Comfortable shoes for Hiking
- ☐ Rain Jacket
- ☐ Hiking Pants / Shorts
- ☐ Hiking Shirt + mid layer
- ☐ Warm Coat, Sweater or Jacket
- ☐ Water bottle
- ☐ Sunscreen
- ☐ Clothing for evenings after the day's activities
- ☐ Toiletries & underwear

## CHARGING ELECTRONICS

While on river we have some capability to charge your electronic devices from our Goal Zero Sherpa and Solar Panels.

This is dependant on sunshine & how many devices are on charge. If you would like to guaranteed ability to charge, we recommend bringing a personal powerpack and/or solar panel.





# CONTACT US

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WEBSITE: <https://maranonexperience.com>

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