

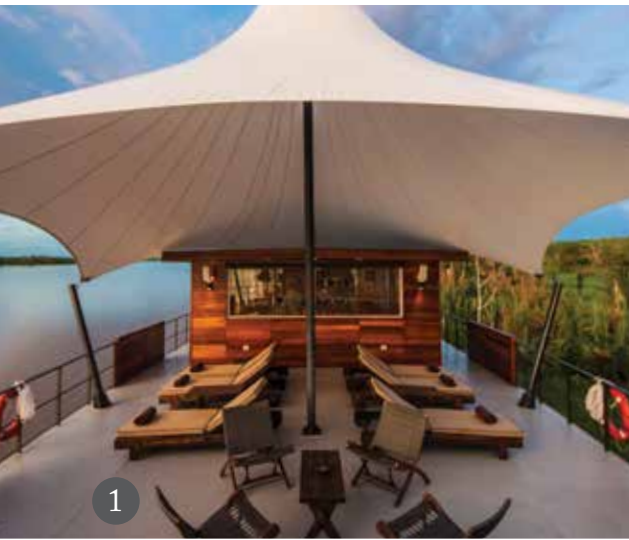
LUXURY

LUXURY MAGAZINE

SUMMER 2018



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For Once-in-a-Lifetime Encounters

FROM THE WORLD'S LARGEST TROPICAL RAINFOREST TO ITS DEEPEST CANYONS, A BUCKET-LIST JACKPOT.

1. Largest Tropical Rainforest Venture deep into Amazonia aboard the tricked-out M/V *Aria Amazon*. This 16-suite river vessel snakes through dense jungle to reach untouched forests where pink river dolphins and toucans rule. Try your hand at piranha fishing and feast on rainforest delicacies such as giant river snails and camu camu berries. aquaexpeditions.com

2. Highest Navigable Lake Explore the storied, lost-in-time islands of Lake Titicaca (elevation 12,500 feet) and the indigenous cultures thriving therein. Taquile, population 2,200, earned a Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity designation from UNESCO for its textile artworks. Another indigenous group, the Uros, live among 42 floating islands that they fashioned from the lake's totora reeds. Stay lakeside at 18-room lodge Titilaka. titilaka.pe

3. Rare Birds Several of the Galapagos Islands' most iconic residents appear on Islas Ballestas, west of the resort town of Paracas. Capture prize-worthy shots of blue-footed boobies, penguins, sea lions, and fur seals while circumnavigating rocky outcrops. venturia.com.pe

4. Deepest Canyon Rise and fall through Colca Canyon—nearly twice as deep as Arizona's Grand Canyon—by kayak, raft, foot, mountain bike, or horseback. Keep an eye—and camera—out for soaring Andean condors with wing spans of up to 12 feet, charismatic llamas, and inspiring topography. Luxuriate by night at Belmond Las Casitas, an intimate, amenity-rich hideaway tucked into the canyon. belmond.com

5. Ancient Geoglyphs Buckle up for a hair-raising Cessna flight over the Nazca Lines etched into the southern Peruvian desert. Visible only from the air, the intricate designs take shape as recognizable figures: a monkey, a spider, an astronaut. Their presence and purpose are the subject of great debate among astronomers and archaeologists. venturia.com.pe

6. OUTFITTER: Scott Dunn Private Journeys This luxury travel operator founded in 1986 customizes trips to nearly 100 countries. In Peru, pick and choose elements from 13 sample itineraries ranging from 7 to 15 days to tailor your own experiential adventure. From \$500/night; eight-night package from \$4,000/person; scottdunn.com

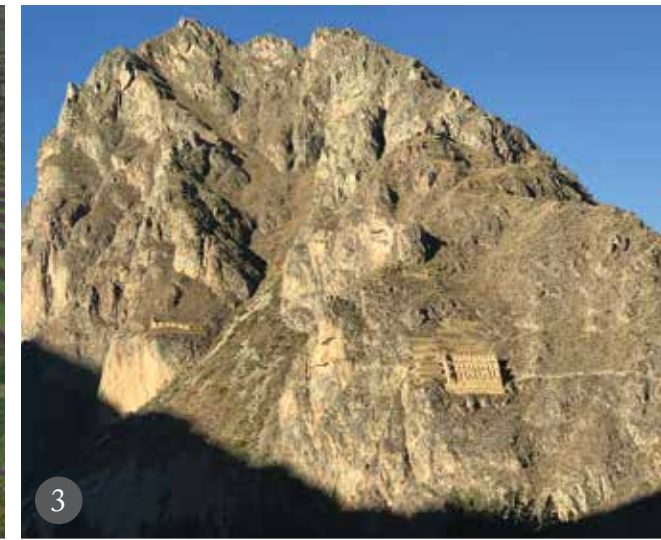
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2. MIGUEL MEJIA CASTRO 6. A. Bryce

For Epic Archaeology

IN THE SACRED VALLEY, MACHU PICCHU IS ONLY THE BEGINNING OF THE ANCIENT INCA NARRATIVE.

1. Machu Picchu The ruins of this iconic 15th-century city in the Andean highlands epitomize classical Inca masonry with 12 acres of picture-perfect terraces, temples, and aqueducts. Escape Machu Picchu's crowds by hiking neighboring mountain Huayna Picchu, which is limited to 400 visitors daily, and revel in the bird's-eye views of the Incan grandeur.

2. Moray This site of terraced circular depressions like a Roman amphitheater was the apex of Incan agricultural ingenuity. However, the main performance here lies in Incan experimentation of microclimates for growing crop species at varying temperatures and degrees of sunlight.

3. Ollantayambo This living Inca town (locally known as Ollanta) is rife with 15th-century relics and cobblestone streets from the days of Emperor Pachacuti. Amid an impressive ceremonial center is the incomplete Temple of the Sun, which includes the pink granite Wall of the Six Monoliths built of stones weighing more than 50 tons each.

4. Pisac This town and its eponymous hilltop ruins are located at the entrance to the Sacred Valley, 45 minutes by car from Cusco among expansive vistas of the area. The structures found throughout Pisac Archaeological Park indicate an advanced, multi-use complex with religious, military, residential, and agricultural components.

5. Salineras de Maras This tiered maze of communal, polygon salt pans dates to Incan times. The water flow from a salt-rich spring is redirected through a terraced irrigation system, allowing salt to evaporate in shallow ponds and making for a dramatic see-it-to-believe-it visual effect.

6. STAY: Explora Sacred Valley This design-forward, upscale lodge opened in June 2016 and rests in the heart of the Sacred Valley of the Incas. Choose among 30 guide-led excursions to experience the region's ruins as part of an all-inclusive, bundled rate for Peruvian gastronomy and mixology. Two nights from \$1,235/person, all-inclusive; explora.com ♦

—Paul Rubio