



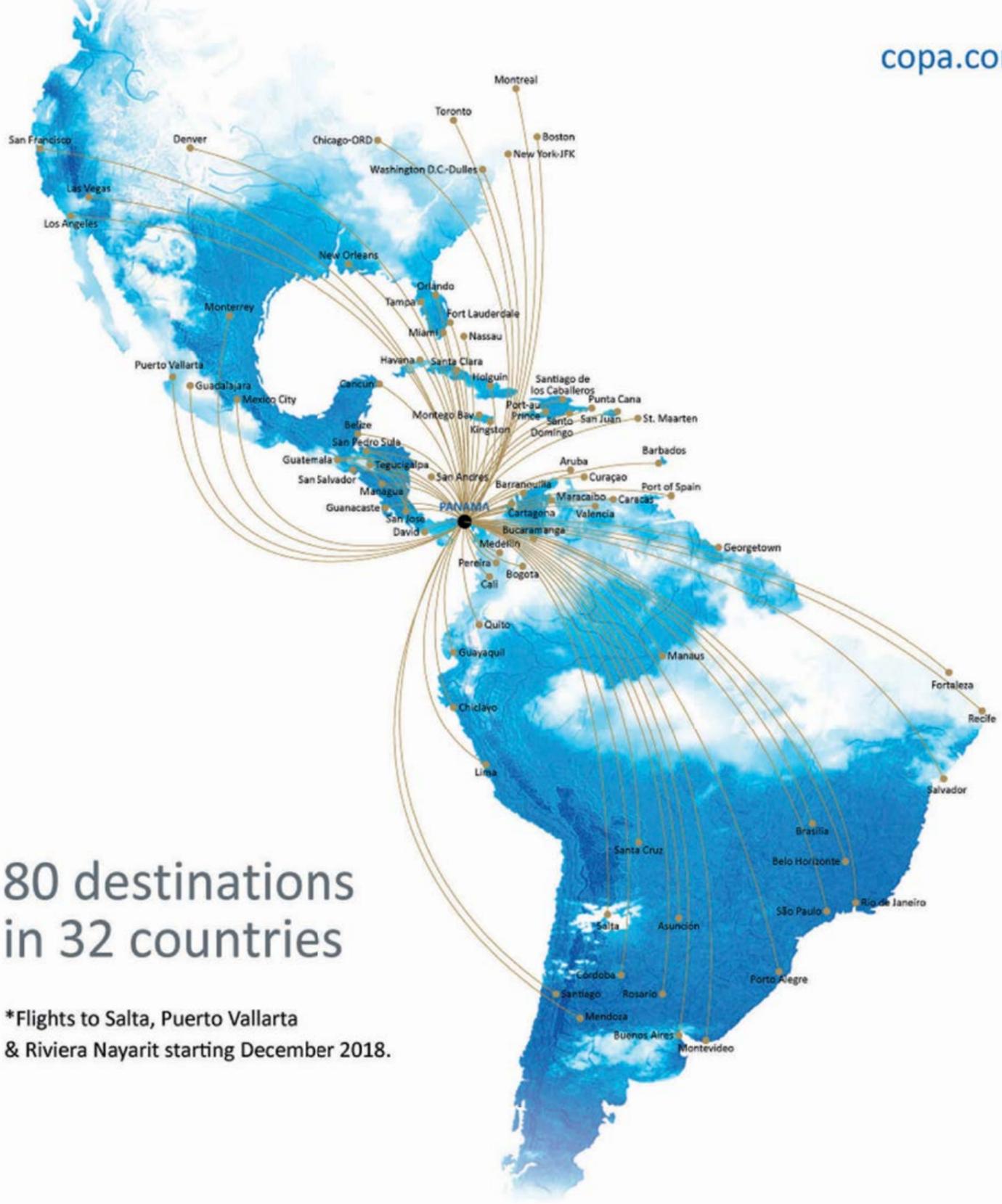
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TRAVEL WEEKLY

Latin America

2018 / 2019 SUPPLEMENT

www.travelweekly.com.au



80 destinations
in 32 countries

*Flights to Salta, Puerto Vallarta
& Riviera Nayarit starting December 2018.

Connected anything is possible



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ON THE COVER: PERUVIAN CHILD
WEARING THE TRADITIONAL GARB
OF PERU
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LATIN AMERICA

Bienvenido a Latinoamerica

The richness of culture, diversity and natural beauty witnessed in Latin America is rivalled by scarce few places in the world.

The heart beat that runs through this dynamic continent is unlike anything else, a palpable energy that must be experienced firsthand.

With cultures as old as time itself, landscapes that shift from icy fjords to the jungles of the Amazon, deserts, mountains and literally everything in between – Latin America has something for everyone.

And yet this vast treasure trove of traveller's gold remains untapped and unexplored by many. With this guide we aim to demystify a handful of these glorious destinations and chart a journey through this exciting territory.

With the help of our partners we want to provide useful tools and insights that will help Latin America become a vital part of your travel portfolio.

Saludos

-The Travel Weekly team



The Latin Trifecta

HOW TO SAVE YOUR CLIENTS FROM LONG BUS RIDES IN SOUTH AMERICA

WORDS: Tara Harrison

We've all heard, seen or been on those long bus journeys from country to country in order to see the best of the continent of South America. Clients, however, need not succumb to the awkward sleep and confined space and bumpy rides along curving roads.

The airline networks are here to save your ground handling. Who knew that Copa Airlines is the largest network in Latin America? Reaching 78 cities in 32 countries, its hub is Panama City, which is an ideal location for Australian travellers coming via the United States of America. The position of Panama City means it is a jump off for Central America, South America and the Caribbean.

You can rest assured Tocumen Airport in Panama City is rarely afflicted by bad weather, which is a relief for all those who transit through. Optimal weather conditions and being located at sea level means less delays. There are also no customs or immigration queues for passengers in transit. Walking from gate to gate means transit times are greatly reduced and much more predictable.

Here are some ideas for your clients' trips:

BRAZIL:

You and your clients will know all about Rio and Sao Paulo, so when it's time to look further afield, Copa has the flights that will have your clients exploring other parts of this huge country. Salvador and Fortaleza are less known and offer a great travel experience. Salvador is the capital of the state of Bahia. It was colonised in 1549 by the Portuguese and makes it one of the first European cities on the continent, with a rich history for travellers to explore. Found on the northern coast, it has beautiful beaches and islands to boot, so clients can combine the tropics with history. Fortaleza is also in the north of Brazil, and was colonised by the Dutch, creating an entirely different city experience for travellers. There are renowned sand dunes just beyond the city, so a mix of nature on the doorstep of urban history will create a diverse itinerary.

ECUADOR:

Ecuador is the gateway to the Galapagos, and also offers great experiences in its cloud forests on the mainland. Clients can easily have both of these experiences. Copa Airlines connects to both Guayaquil and Quito. Guayaquil is the port city from where to reach the Galapagos, where clients can witness the origins of evolution and the unique creatures that revealed their biological lineage. Quito sits high in the Andes mountain range and is the Ecuadorian capital. It is a beautiful city given its colonial buildings nestled in the high altitude. Given the mountain scenery, the city's outskirts offers some pristine mountain hiking.



COLOMBIA:

This is a country that has seen huge growth in recent years, thanks to its warm Latin hospitality and diversity of experiences, from nature to coffee plantations to geopolitical history. Copa Airlines travels to eight destinations in Colombia, so clients can have easy access to their preferred Colombia experience. Connections are to Barranquilla, Bogota, Bucaramanga, Cali, Cartagena, Medellin, Pereira and San Andres Island. Cartagena is always popular, as the colourful town that inspired the writing of one of Latin America's best-known authors, Gabriel Garcia Marquez.

NEW WAYS TO SEE

Copa Airlines has also added six new destinations this year, opening up the region even further. Fortaleza in Brazil is a beach city in the north east of Brazil with flights launched there in July. There's also a new route to Bridgetown in Barbados, the capital of the tropical country. Of a similar vein, flights from Panama City to St Maarten have allowed further access to the tropical island, and you would instantly recognise Maho beach, where planes land within what seems like touching distance of the beach-goers. Puerto Vallarta is a resort town in Mexico, which will benefit from a Copa connection come December this year. Salta in Argentina will also be one stop from Panama City at the end of the year, and travellers will embrace the destination that is the Spanish colonial heart of north Argentina.

5

WAYS TO DIFFERENTIATE YOUR CLIENTS' LATIN TRIPS

LATIN AMERICA IS HOME TO SOME OF THE WORLD'S MOST INCREDIBLE TRAVEL DESTINATIONS. WITH SO MUCH TO SEE, THERE IS A REAL ADVANTAGE IN SELLING CLIENTS A TRIP THAT WILL DELVE DEEP INTO EACH INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY. DESTINATIONS SUCH AS CHILE, BRAZIL, ARGENTINA, BOLIVIA AND COLOMBIA EACH HAVE A STRONG BRAND AND OFFER UNIQUE SELLING POINTS.

WORDS: Tara Harrison

Adventure: Chile

For clients who are after that wow factor, Easter Island is a place not to be missed. There's no inhabited place in the world quite so isolated and mysterious as Chilean Polynesia. The over 1,000 Moai statues carved by the Rapa Nui people continue to stump scholars and intrigue tourists. Along with historical monuments, Easter Island is the perfect destination for nature-lovers who can explore pink-sand beaches, volcanic cones, and rugged grasslands. You can visit Easter Island on Tempo Holidays four-day Discover Easter Island tour priced from \$755.

Another amazing Chilean destination is the Atacama Desert located in the north of Chile's chilli-like-shape. This diverse landscape is the world's driest place – so expect salt flats that sizzle in the sun and rock formations that have emerged from the lack of rain. You can also get up close to pink flamingos which are always a hit with tourists and visit the incredible Moon Valley which transports you to another planet. Experience this beautiful and otherworldly landscape on Tempo Holidays four-day tour priced from \$923.

Perhaps the biggest drawcard of Chile is Patagonia and the immense Torres del Paine National Park. Here, you will be greeted with rugged and wild terrain that will get your heart racing, as you visit mountains, lagoons, and glaciers unlike any others in the world. Discover this beautiful region of Chile on Tempo Holidays "Highlights of Patagonia" tour priced from \$1,622. Visit both Chile and Argentina as you cross the border to marvel at the awe-inspiring Perito Moreno Glacier, before ending in El Calafate, a small and pretty town in Patagonia.



Culture: Brazil

When your client thinks of warmth, frivolity and passion, Brazil ticks all the boxes. A trip to Brazil makes you realise just how bad a dancer you are, but never fear – it's more because the Brazilians are born with hip movements that put Elvis to shame. Tempo Holidays has a trip dedicated to dance moves, from Argentina to Brazil, called Tango to Samba. Over nine days, the trip takes in all the sights but bookends it with tango in Buenos Aires and samba in Rio de Janeiro, priced from \$1971.

For clients that need a short break, a three-day Buzios Beach Escape priced at \$776 is just the ticket. This peninsula boasts cobbled streets and has the laid-back vibe and aesthetic that comes with a South American fishing village, making it the perfect escape from the fast-paced Rio.

For a comprehensive introduction into the country, there's an 11-day Best of Brazil trip. It includes Rio, the Iguassu Falls, the historic

city of Salvador as well as the green basin of the world, the Amazon rainforest. Iconic cultural destinations such as Ipanema and Copacabana will revive your clients. Throw in a few caipirinha's and you'll have a client for life.

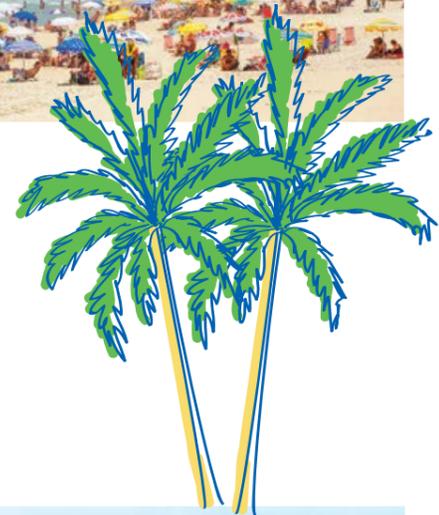
History: Argentina

Argentina is arguably the most European country in South America, and the confluence of legacies and colonialism makes for a rich travel experience. Buenos Aires is widely considered one of the most beautiful cities in the world, for it was modelled after Paris, but in its own slightly ramshackle South American way. It's odd to call a city sensual, but it's a term that is often bandied about in conjunction with Buenos Aires.

Tempo Holidays 9-Day Argentine Triangle uncovers the very best of Argentina. Immerse yourself in the rich culture and history of Buenos Aires, visit the Perito Moreno Glacier, an impressive natural wonder located in Los

Glaciers National Park and visit Iguazu Falls a UNESCO Natural Heritage Site and one of the 7 Modern Wonders of Nature.

For a totally different experience in Argentina, Tempo Holidays offer a 4-day tour of the Colonial North starting from \$597. Learn about the wine making process of the Salta region, wonder at the rocky landscapes of Valles Calchaquie and visit the Hill of Seven Colours in Purmamarca.





4 Off the beaten track:
Bolivia

We have talked much of diversity across the South American continent, but one country punches above its weight. That country is Bolivia. From lakes to salt flats to mountain ranges and high-altitude cities, the colours are bright and the textile scene here is worldclass. You can't help but indulge in adventure in Bolivia.

Salar de Uyuni is iconic – you and your clients will all have seen the illusory effects of the salt flats. Tempo Holidays offers a 3-day Salt Flats Crossing that dives deep into the etymology of the place, with a visit to salt mines as well as an oasis called Isla Pescado

found in the middle of the lake, flourishing with both plants and wildlife. Then there is the Laguna Colorada with its rouge-tinged waters and three species of flamingo.

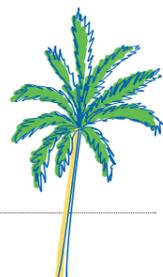
The city of La Paz, standing at an incredible 3,640 metres above sea level, is one of the most unique cities of Latin America. See the pancake-flat Altiplano and then fall into steep-sided bowl lined with red-brick buildings, which combine with modern skyscrapers. Witches markets, ancient ruins and alien artefacts can all be found in and around La Paz – making it a must-visit destination in Bolivia. Not far from La Paz you can find Lake Titicaca, another highlight of Bolivia.

5 Hidden Treasures:
Colombia

Colombia would have to be one of the most energetic countries of the South American portfolio, and it's not just because of the high-quality coffee bean. Coffee is a religion here, and you'd be remiss to leave off a visit to the coffee plantations and learn about the coffee culture that has sprouted up to support it. On Tempo Holidays 4-day "Coffee Zone" tour you will learn all about the coffee process and journey through lush plantations of Pereira, Filandia, Salento and Cocora Valley.

The energy of Cartagena, with its colourful buildings and cobbled streets is another treasure of Colombia. It has produced some fine art and literature due to its inspiring surroundings. The Latin surrealist movement was born here at the hands of Gabriel Garcia Marquez, and it will inspire your clients just as much. Walled-city, romantic city.

The capital Bogota also has a thriving underground art scene. Tempo Holidays three-day Taste of Bogota trip incorporates a Salt Cathedral, carved from an underground salt mine, that is sure to wow. There is also a visit to Museo de Botero which displays the work of Botera, a famous Colombian artist, as well as his personal collection which reads like a masters roll call: think Picasso, Monet, Chagall and Matisse.



**Discover
Latin America**

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CUBA FOR FIRST-TIMERS

DON'T LET ITS HISTORICAL ISOLATION PUT OFF YOUR CLIENTS OR YOUR ITINERARY PLANNING. THIS IS WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW FOR A HASSLE-FREE CUBA TRIP

WORDS: Tara Harrison

It's been the elusive destination for decades and has captured the collective imagination as a travel hub thanks to its colourful characters, vintage cars, cigars and insular political history. The time warp appeal of Cuba will always have pundits calling for the time to go as now, and there is some merit in that. It is a highly singular experience to be able to travel to a place that was so shut off from the world, hence honing and refining its cultural identity.

Some things for first timers to note, is that once client's land they'll have two transport options – classic cars, which are called almendrones – or the cocotaxi, which are three wheelers where the windows are replaced for wind that will whip past. And if clients are planning on some nights out, recommend that they take a

rumba class, so they can really mesh with the locals.

The historical limitations of reaching Cuba in the past need not be that of the present. In fact, it is easier than ever to access Cuba for Australians. The first step is getting there, and tackling immigration requirements. A little-known detail is that clients can arrange their Cuban Visitor Card at Mexico City airport.

Aeromexico can help with this collection and travelling via Mexico City or Cancun to Cuba is therefore a hassle-free way to reach Cuba. The Visitor Card can be sorted within ten minutes (subject to demand) and costs approximately US\$50. Aeromexico offers services from Mexico City or Cancun straight to Havana and the best way to connect is through US hubs such as LA, San Francisco or Dallas.

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- A modern fleet of Boeings including B787 Dreamliners with more than 600 flights a day
- Major hubs include: Mexico City (Terminal 2) Monterrey (Terminal B)
- There is the potential to earn frequent flyer points through Delta's Skymiles programme and redeem them flying Virgin Australia – a great perk for Aussie travellers.
- Only Latin carrier serving Asia for more than a decade – enabling agents to create itineraries for Aussie travellers (for whom Asia is a popular choice) to connect straight from Tokyo, Shanghai or Seoul to Mexico and Cuba. (Australians tend to fly through USA gateways of L.A, San Francisco & Dallas to connect onto Aeromexico)
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| | | | | |
|-----------|---|-----------|---|-------|
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| Cancun | → | La Havana | → | 14:12 |
| La Havana | → | Cancun | → | 15:50 |
| La Havana | → | Cancun | → | 17:42 |



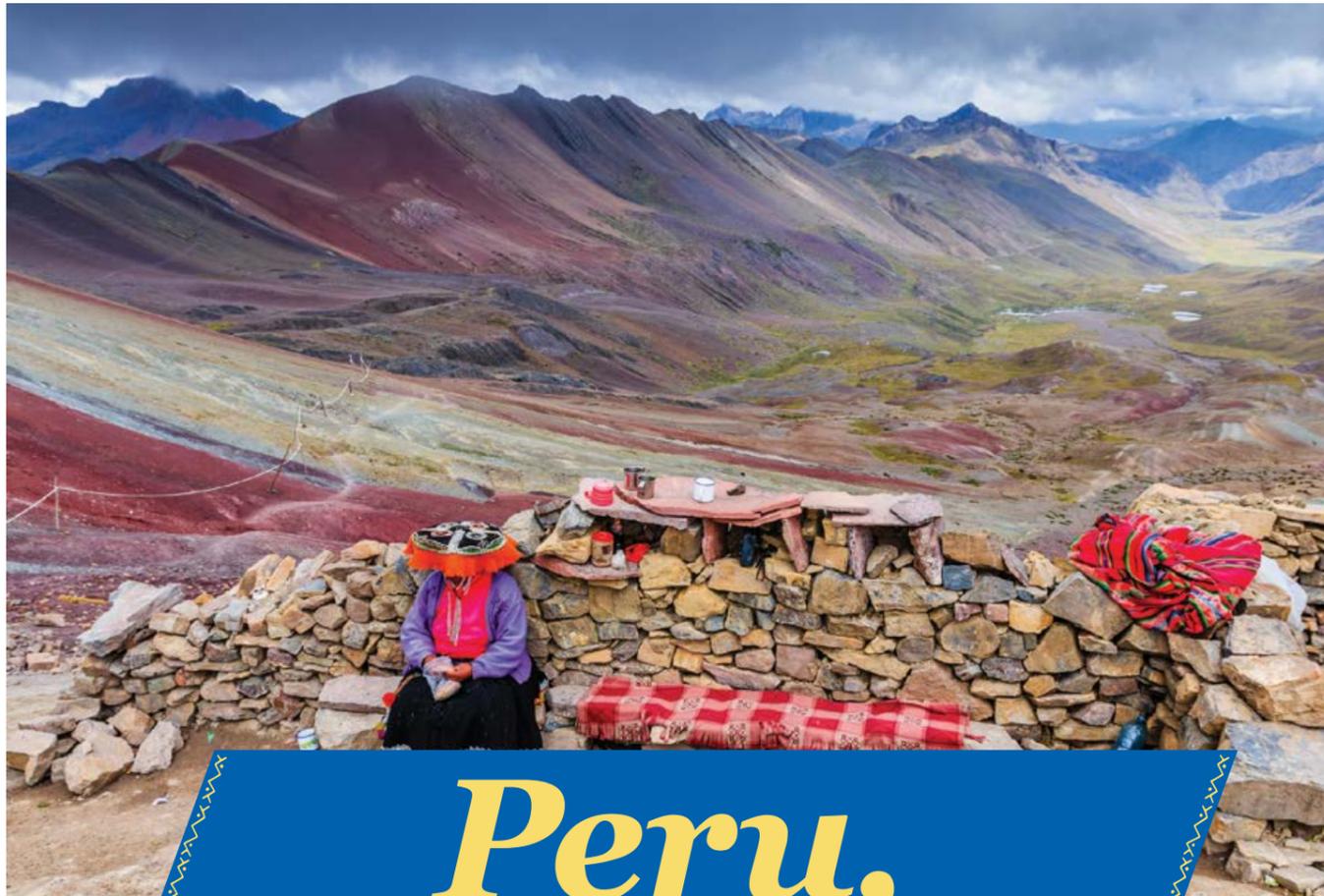
La Havana



Cancun

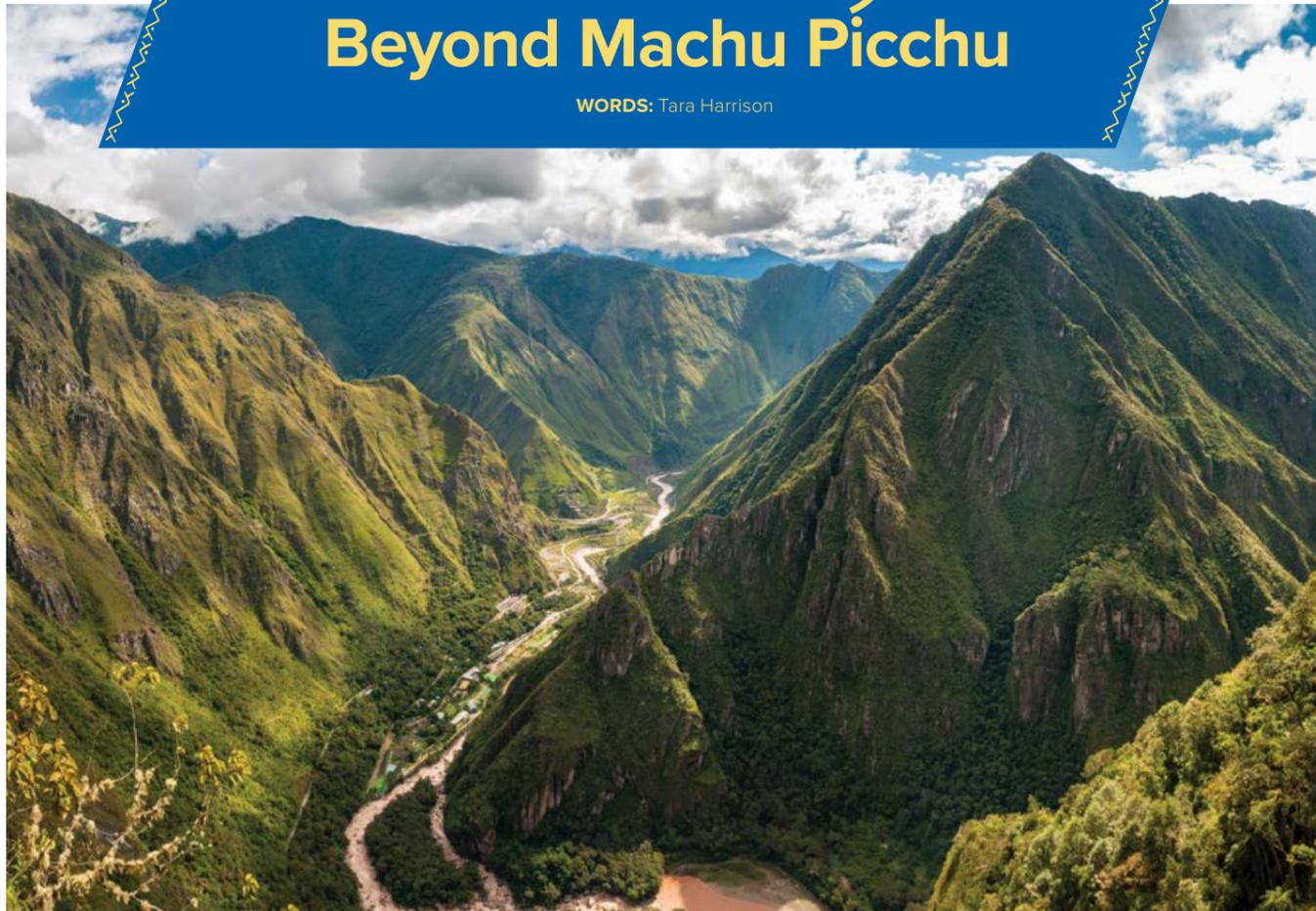
Check with your travel agent and make sure your flight is with Aeromexico.





Peru, Beyond Machu Picchu

WORDS: Tara Harrison



History

The Nazca Lines, ancient geoglyphs, have baffled pundits from the moment they were discovered. Taking a light aircraft over the lines is the best way to see the indentations. While Nazca are most known, there are also Palpa markings to be seen from the sky. The Gate 1 Travel Machu Picchu and Nazca lines trip includes an hour and a half flight before visiting the archaeological sites of Paracas indigenous people.

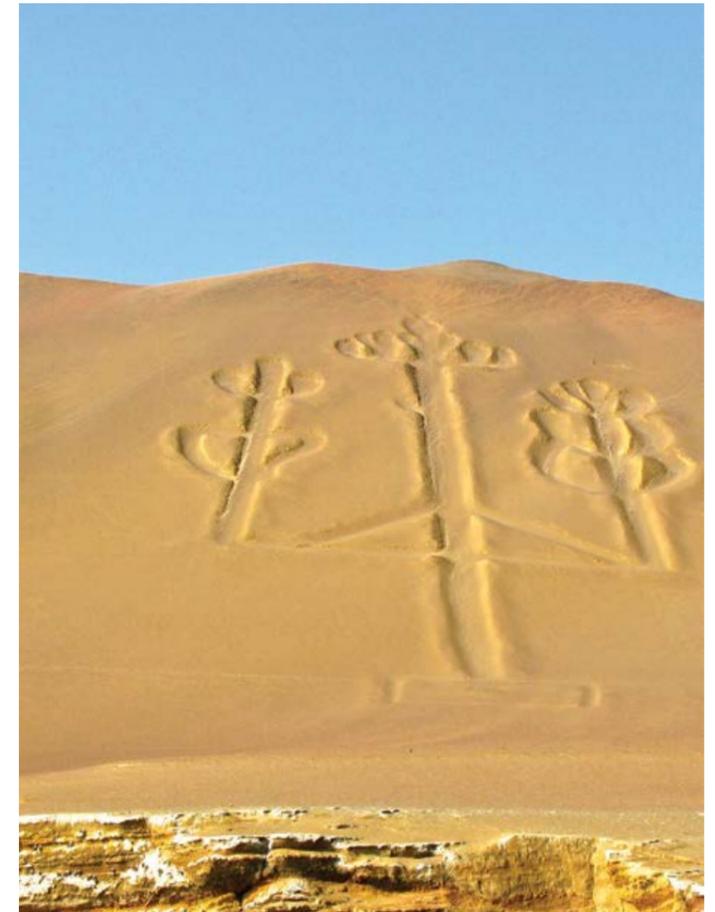
There are further Inca ruins at Puka Pukaram, a red fortress, as well as Sacsayhuaman fortress. Gate 1 Travel Peru itineraries also include a trip to Qenqo, with striking rock carvings of geometric shapes and the elusive and enigmatic puma from ancient times. There is also a sacrificial stone here where llamas would be killed for spiritual purposes.

Cities

Cuzco was once the capital of the Inca Empire and is a UNESCO listed site. Gate 1 Travel itineraries include optional behind the scenes tour of the local markets that aren't just craft, but food as well. Chita bread is fresh baked and a local specialty. There's also an interaction with a shaman in the Cuzco cemetery as well as a cooking class. In Cuzco, the Colonial Cathedral is a sight to behold, with a collection of art to rival any gallery. There are 400 paintings, including the Temple of the Sun and the fortress of Sacsayhuaman, which took more than 30 years to finish. San Blas Hill is the bohemian region of Cuzco, and it is wealthy with art galleries and ornate balconies where flowers bloom over the rails.

Lima is one of South America's oldest cities, with two millennia of history. There are colonial palaces and cathedrals and monasteries. The design and architecture is decadent. Lima also boasts nearby pre-Inca ruins, at Pachamac, which is an incredible experience. Unlike Machu Picchu, found in the mountains, Pachamac is along the coast. On the Gate 1 Travel 14-day Peruvian Legends trip travellers will go to a cooking class to make the local specialty of ceviche.

Arequipa is another colonial city, but it's defined by three volcanoes. It's a fairly remote city given the protection which these geothermal masses provide. That isolation means the Spanish culture which created the city flourished. The city is also identifiable by its white rock, harvested from the volcanic topography. It is therefore called the white city by many, and the cathedral and monastery here both date from the 16th century.



Culture

The Pisac handcraft markets are well worth a shopping expedition and are part of the Gate 1 Travel itineraries. The Pisac complex houses a moon temple, while the village of Pisac is nestled in the mountains, in a valley with streets lined with market stalls. All the alleys lead to the foot of the mountains, and it's quite the experience walking amidst the brightly coloured shawls, alpaca woollens and crafts.

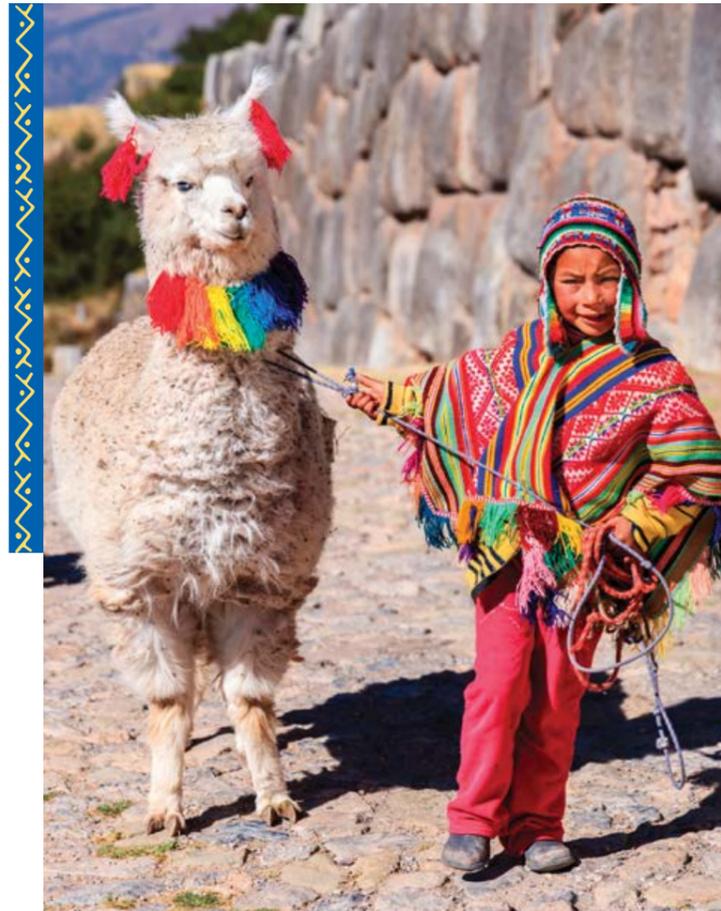
Upon departing the Sacred Valley clients could consider visiting a ranch with a barbecue lunch and an interaction with the Peruvian Paso horse, ridden by the Peruvian equivalent of cowboys, called chalanos. They wear an identifiable linen outfit and it's an excellent display of horsemanship and harks back to the time of Spanish colonialism.

Nature

Ballestos Islands is almost an alternative to the Galapagos, given its wealth of wildlife. While it lacks the evolutionary biology that trigger Darwin's theory, it is home to indigenous bird life as well as the blue-footed booby, Humboldt penguins, and sea lions.

Aguas Calientes is a beautiful country region, close to Machu Picchu, which is a tropical bastion of hummingbirds, waterfalls and orchids. On Gate 1 Travel's 11-day Deluxe Peru trip a private spiritual ceremony will be held for travellers in the evening following the Machu Picchu visit. A local shaman performs an Andean ritual to worship Mother Earth. Aguas Caliente is also renowned for its hot springs, and is also home to the Machu Picchu Museum.

Colca Canyon is a sight that gives the Grand Canyon a run for its money, and allegedly twice as deep. The Colca river created the great earth cavity. This is the best place to see the striking Andean condor as they fly the thermal currents above the canyon.



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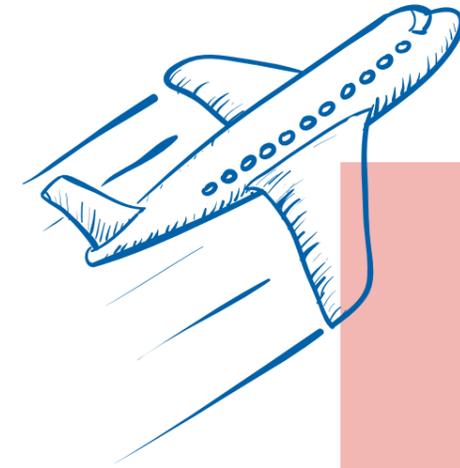
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WHY CHOOSE



LATAM FOR YOUR CLIENTS

WORDS: Tara Harrison

Choosing to travel to South America is not an accident. It's a calculated nod to days or hopefully weeks of Latin panache, passion and warmth. That experience can begin on Australian soil with flight bookings with LATAM Airlines. South America's largest carrier, LATAM is ramping up its presence in Australia, where the airline operates a daily, one-stop service from Sydney and is expanding and upping frequency on its new direct service between Melbourne and Santiago, Chile.

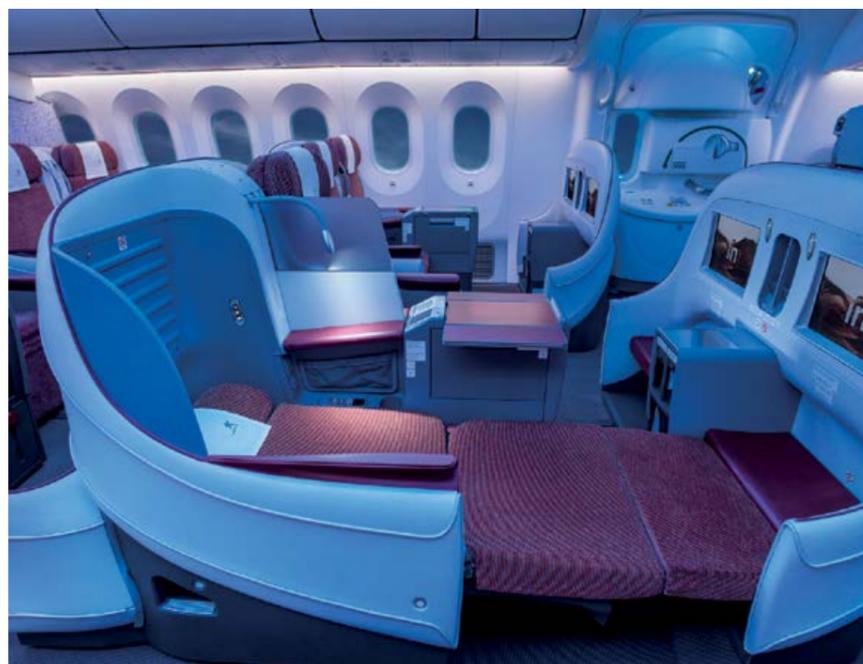
Other capital cities need not feel left out, however, as LATAM has them covered. With LATAM's oneworld partners, passengers in Australia can easily connect to Sydney and Melbourne from locations across the country, including Adelaide, Brisbane, Darwin, Gold Coast and Perth, as well as from destinations throughout Asia from big cities like Hong Kong, Singapore and Beijing to the tourist capitals of Bangkok and Bali.

The South American experience starts the moment you step on board – even the seats are

designed with a purple and pink colour palette. The meals have been well considered to cater for the destination, with business class and premium economy menus designed by South American chefs – high profile ones, at that. Not to mention the wine list, which is in the hands of South America's only Master Sommelier – Hector Vergara.

Sustainability is also a pillar of the LATAM service. LATAM's Melbourne and Sydney to Santiago services, are operated by state-of-the-art Boeing 787-9 aircraft, which is a more fuel-efficient way to fly, and also a gentler one for passengers. Thanks to aerodynamic technology, there's less turbulence and a better cabin pressure alleviates headaches and other symptoms a passenger might experience when flying, allowing travellers to arrive feeling fresher at their destination.

Recognised as the leading airline group for a fifth consecutive year in the Dow Jones Sustainability Index, LATAM prides itself on advocating for sustainable tourism and supporting relief efforts across South America.



Photos courtesy of LATAM Airlines Group

The direct Melbourne to Santiago route will increase in frequency from January 2019, with flights going from three flights to five flights per week. This will boost capacity by 50,000 passengers per year.

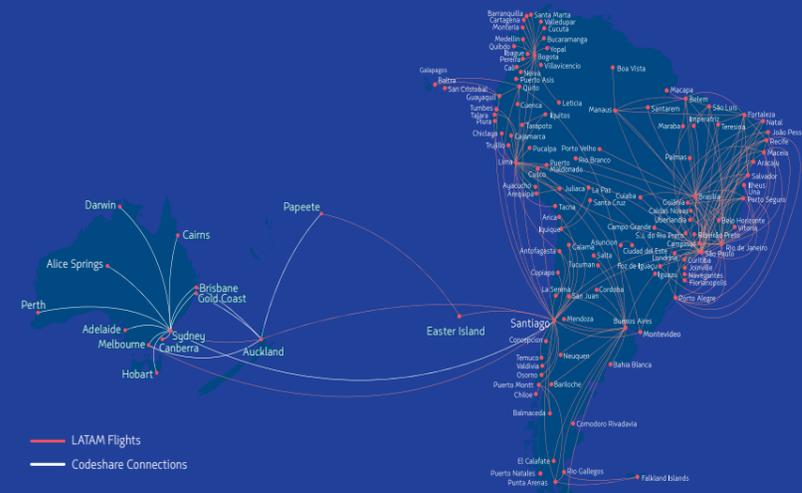
As well as the Melbourne service, LATAM also offers one stop daily flights from Sydney to Santiago, Chile via Auckland. Santiago is one of LATAM's principal hubs and offers onward connections to over 120 destinations throughout Latin America, including Torres del Paine National Park (via Punta Arenas, Chile), the Galapagos Islands, Cartagena de Indias in Colombia, Iguazú Falls (via Puerto Iguazú, Argentina) and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

"LATAM is committed to providing unrivalled connectivity to, from and within Latin America so that more people have the opportunity to experience the unique destinations our region has to offer," said Valeria Alvano, Regional General Manager, Oceania, LATAM Airlines Group.



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Salkantay Trek to Machu Picchu, Peru



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Retreat to Mexico



MEXICO MAY BE RENOWNED FOR ITS MARGARITAS AND MARACAS, BUT WE'VE FOUND A RETREAT THAT DELIVERS WELLNESS AND LUXURY ON THE BAJA PENINSULA'S MOST SWIMMABLE BEACH

WORDS: Tara Harrison

One&Only Palmilla is the best of Mexico in a very neat 250-acre ocean-front package. You can choose your own adventure here, opting for a healthful stay or a hedonistic one. We recommend a healthy balance of both. The retreat frequently hosts yoga retreats with professional and renowned teachers from all over the world. But then, the swim-up bar will lure you in the evening and the zesty margaritas will make your hips all the more open for a salsa that evening.

And don't forget dinner. Here Michelin starred chef dishes up the finest steak and seafood. There's also a food genre we've never heard of – Mexiterranean, found at resort restaurant Agua by Larbi. For more word play,

Suviche is a restaurant dedicated to ceviche and sushi and capitalises on open air sea views and live music.

You're not going to run out of diversions, either. There's snorkelling, golf, whale watching, diving, deep sea fishing and tennis. There's also a veritable temple dedicated to nailcare, with the Pedi:Mani:Cure studio designed by the man called a 'foot virtuoso' from France. It bucks the trend of the majority of the coastline by having one of the best swimming beaches on the Baja Peninsula. Los Cabos is renowned for its beaches, however not many of them are conducive to a swim.

As for your client's private spaces, the room types range from pool suites to villas and ocean front rooms. One&Only Palmilla has enough to satisfy each client type.



Photos courtesy of One&Only Palmilla



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