

LONG THE  
GATEWAY TO  
PERU'S ANCIENT  
MYSTERIES,  
THIS COLONIAL  
CAPITAL CLAIMS  
COUNTLESS  
WONDERS OF  
ITS OWN



## lima

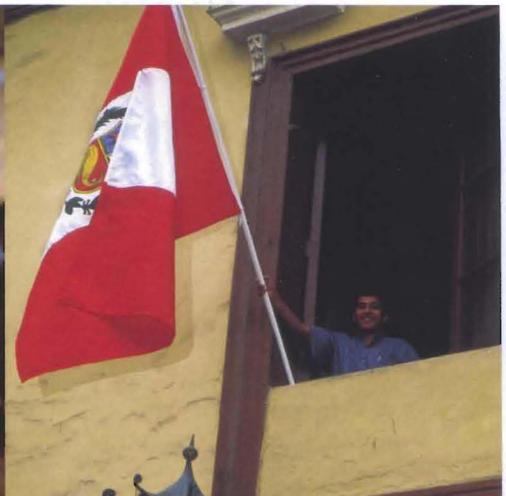
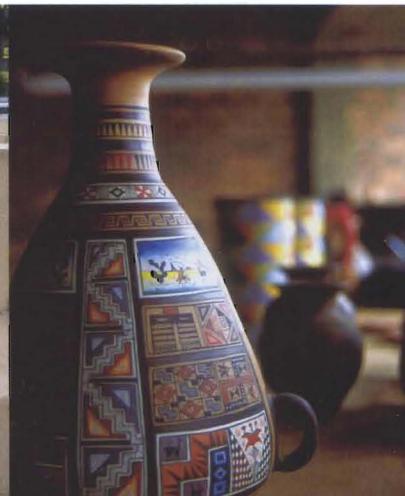
**SEE** Lima's historic heart still beats strong in the **Plaza de Armas**, the spot where Francisco Pizarro founded the "City of Kings" in 1535. Inside the Cathedral, a glass coffin displays the purported bones of Pizarro himself. At the Government Palace, view the impressive changing of the guard at 11:45 each morning. • The city's superb museums offer up a rich legacy of cultural, political, and artistic treasures. The **Gold Museum** displays a dazzling array of jewelry, funerary masks, scepters, idols, and thousands of gold pieces; the **National Museum of Anthropology and Archaeology** showcases Peru's archaeological heritage; and the fascinating **Museum of the Inquisition** simultaneously informs and horrifies.

**DO** While in the city center, have afternoon tea at the **Gran Hotel Bolívar**; visit one of the stunning **colonial houses** such as the Palacio Torre Tagle; and stroll through the traditional **Chinatown** area. • If you're traveling during the last two weeks of October, be sure to witness one of the colorful processions of the **annual Lord of the Miracles festivals**, the largest such procession in the Americas. It's also the time of Lima's **Bullfight Season**, during which international bullfighters compete in the oldest arena on the continent.

**SHOP** Local folk art and handicrafts, woolen and alpaca clothing, jewelry, and textiles are prime buys in the local marketplaces. Explore the huge **Indian Market**, or unearth a

THIS PAGE, TOP: During a recent visit, President George W. Bush was received in Peru's lavish Presidential Palace. BELOW: Brujas de Cachiche proprietor, Cesar Alcorta, in his well-stocked wine cellar. Changing of the guard at the Government Palace.





FROM LEFT: Munching on fried sweet bread, Miraflores District. Hand-draft Cusquean-style pitcher. Displaying national pride over Lima's Chinatown area. Two staples: Ceviche and Pisco Sour. Dine with dolphins at the Hotel Los Delfines; afterward, descend to Oceanus, the hotel's underwater piano bar.

Peruvian treasure at the **Feria Artesanal**. Both are located in Pueblo Libre. • In **Miraflores** the handicrafts market is a visual feast; the exquisite shop, Kuntur Wasi, features high-quality Peruvian handicrafts, and Silvana Prints is fabric heaven. In the **Barranco area**, near the Bridge of Sighs, shop for great Andean folk art and visit the studio of the heralded painter, Nicario Jimenez.

**EAT** The “must-eat” of Peruvian dishes is the famous *ceviche* (lemon-marinated raw fish). The national drink, Pisco Sour, is made from white grape brandy. • For cocktails, try **Oceanus**, the underwater piano bar in the Los Delfines Hotel; or watch the sun set at **La Rosa Nautica**, situated at the end of a pier in Costa Verde (Miraflores). • **Las Brujas de Cachiche** (*Bolognesi 460, Miraflores*) creates authentic Peruvian meals in an old mansion setting; while **L'Eau Vive** (*Ucayali 370, central Lima*) serves a side dish of spiritual sustenance – its delicious meals are prepared by a French order of nuns, with all proceeds going toward helping the poor.

**STAY** Surrounded by parklands and graced with magnificent ocean vistas, the 81-room **Miraflores Park Hotel** counts among its celebrated guests Queen Sophia of Spain and the Princess of Thailand; the presidents of Chile and Ecuador; designer Luciano Benetton; and supermodel Claudia Schiffer. The elegant suites feature king beds, marble and granite bathrooms, and Internet access. A state-of-the-art gymnasium, fitness center, squash and tennis courts, butler service, a lovely outdoor pool, and two fine restaurants round out the extravagant amenities. *Virtuoso guests enjoy a deluxe room with upgrade on arrival (subject to availability); fruit and flowers in room upon arrival; butler service; and a choice of either dinner for two in the Ambrosia Restaurant or a complimentary 30-minute massage per person. From US\$215.*



**GETTING THERE** Travcoa combines Peru sightseeing with a week-long Amazon cruise. 13 days (Feb. 7 or May 2, 2003). From \$5,995. • Abercrombie & Kent reveals the **Mysteries of the Ancient Incas** on an 11-day, La Paz-to-Lima tour. (Dec. 9, 2002). From \$3,290. • Machu Picchu, Easter Island, the Galapagos – all in the comfort of a private Boeing luxury jet. Intrav's **Ultimate South American Adventure** departs March 29, 2003, for 22 luscious days. From \$41,900. • For Voyager Club departures in South America, please see our Calendar, page 92.