Suggested Reading List for Peru

Books

Lost City of the Incas, The Story of Machu Picchu and its Builders (Hiram Bingham)

This classic account is a gripping story of exploration, archaeology and natural history -- and still an outstanding overview of the site itself. With original expedition photographs. Originally published in 1952, the book is still an excellent account, not only of the expedition but also of the site itself.

The Inca Trail, Cuzco & Machu Picchu (Richard Danbury)

A practical guide to planning and walking the Inca Trail with good maps, lots of travel information, photographs and a brief overview of Inca culture and history. Not just for those hiking the Inca Trail, it's an excellent compact guide to Cusco, Machu Picchu, Lima and surroundings.

The Incas, People of the Sun (Carmen Bernard)

This jewel of a book features hundreds of archival drawings and photographs, a chronology and long excerpts from the journals of early explorers. It's a guide to the ancient monuments, daily life of the Incas, and history of exploration.

The Incas and their Ancestors, The Archaeology of Peru (Michael Moseley)

An outstanding survey of the archaeology of the Inca, Moche and Nazca civilizations. With hundreds of color illustrations and line drawings, it's an in-depth look at the ancient cultures and history of Peru, the best general introduction to the subject.

Exploring Cusco (Peter Frost)

A guide to the Cusco region with detailed chapters on Machu Picchu and the Inca trail.

A Field Guide to the Birds of Machu Picchu (Barry Walker)

All the birds you will see (375 species!), and everything about them, fully illustrated in color.

Machu Picchu, the Sacred Center (Johan Reinhard)

A scholarly look at Machu Picchu by the famous high-altitude archaeologist, through the lens of Inca religion and mountain worship.

A Field Guide to the Birds of Peru (James Clements, Noam Shany & Dana Gardner)

A comprehensive field guide to the birds of Peru with color plates illustrating almost 1,800 species. Long-anticipated, it covers the diversity of birds and habitats from the Amazon to Andes and Pacific coast. Admirably compact, short descriptions of each species focus on identification, habitat and distribution. With a gazetteer of localities and both English and Spanish names.

Websites

The Inka Trail http://www.archaeology.org/online/features/peru/inka.html

Machu Picchu World Heritage Site http://www.wcmc.org.uk/protected areas/data/wh/macchu.html

Blogs

The Blond Abroad https://theblondeabroad.com/peru/

Borders of Adventure https://www.bordersofadventure.com/travel-to-peru-guide/

The Wandering Soles https://www.twowanderingsoles.com/peru