

Peru

Information for applicants

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Peru is known in particular for its rich cultural heritage: For example, the ruins of Inca city Machu Picchu were added to the list of new wonders of the world in 2007. The country is home to many picturesque festivities, which blend Christian and traditional rituals, and cultivate the cultural roots of Asian, African and European immigrants. This mix is also the source of the internationally fêted culinary culture that is unrivalled worldwide. Peru's unique topography – thousands of kilometres of coastline, the highlands with their 6,000 m-high peaks and the world's largest tropical rainforest make Peru one of our planet's megadiverse countries. Covering an area of 1,285,215 km² and with a population of roughly 31 million, Peru is the largest Andean country. It shares direct borders with Colombia, Ecuador, Brazil, Bolivia and Chile.

Climate and sights

The country can be divided into three geographical zones with different climatic conditions: a tropical climate in the eastern lowlands/Amazon rainforest, a dry, cold climate in the highlands and a damp, temperate climate in the coastal region. Temperatures in Lima are between 20-30°C in summer (December to March) and 12-16°C in winter (June to September). Rainfall is rare, but humidity is between 70 and 90%. From June to September, the sky is almost always overcast. Fog is common in coastal regions, and there is often light drizzle at night.

Historical cities like the capital Lima, Trujillo in the north as well as Cuzco and Arequipa in the south are worth a visit. There are archaeological sights, some of

international significance, throughout the country. The many national parks and nature conservation areas give visitors opportunities to experience flora and fauna that remain almost untouched in some areas.

Medical care

Lima and the medium-sized cities of Peru offer adequate private medical services that meet international standards. Availability of medication is good. Common medicines are available in almost all of the many pharmacies in the major cities.

Accommodation and quality of life

For reasons of security and to save time, we recommend that you live in one of the upmarket districts. In Lima, these include the districts of Miraflores, Barranco, San Isidro, La Molina, San Borja and Santiago de Surco. Before signing the rental contract, check how long it will take you to drive to your workplace, school, etc.

It is up to you whether you prefer to live in an apartment or a house. However, there are more modern, spacious apartments than there are houses of the same standard. Rents are roughly 10 USD/m².

Shops and services

The supply of goods and services is consistently good. The shopping experience in a supermarket in Lima and the larger medium-sized cities is virtually the same as in Germany – except for the higher prices. Fresh fruit and vegetables are cheaper at weekly markets. Personal services are consistently cheaper than in Western Europe. Electronics and international branded goods are generally more expensive than in Germany.

Accompanying partners and children

The application process for long-term expert visas must be initiated before you depart for the country. The HR Department will take the first step by sending a letter to the GIZ country office in Lima. The country office will then tell you which documents you need and what next steps you need to take. Accompanying partners and children receive a visa linked to the cooperation visa, but this does not include a work permit.

Work visas must be applied for separately. To obtain a work permit, partners must waive their seconded status and conclude an employment contract. The process can take several months and requires certification of various documents by the Peruvian authorities. On request, the country office can provide up-to-date information and help with the application process.

Schools and childcare: The Alexander von Humboldt School in Lima offers the German higher school-leaving certificate *Abitur*. There are more German and other foreign language schools that offer international qualifications in Lima and the surrounding area, as well as Arequipa. For childcare, we also recommend choosing fee-based private services. Better-off families generally also hire a *nana* to mind their children.

Find out more

<https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussepolitik/laenderinformationen/peru-node>

<https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/400.html>

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