



# Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

## Peru - Cusco

### Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** Lima
- ✓ **Language:** Spanish / Indigenous
- ✓ **Sq km:** 385
- ✓ **Population:** ± 435.000
- ✓ **Currency:** Nueva Sol (S)
- ✓ **Country code:** +51 (84)
- ✓ **Visa:** Fore some countries, [check!](#)
- ✓ **Alarm codes:** 105 (police), 116 (fire), 117 (ambulance)
- ✓ **Vaccinations:** Hep-A / Hep-B / Typhoid / DTP / Yellow fever / Malaria prevention

### History Recap Over 1 Drink

6000BC: Nomads. 2500BC: Caral first city. Civilizations developed → Inca's (1438-1532) most powerful, capital: Cusco, language: Quechua, area: Ecuador to central Chile. 1531: Spanish, brought diseases (8,6mln Inca's died). Pizarro: *coupe d'état*, Battle of Cajamarca. Christianity introduced. Colonial land-tenure structure. 1542: Viceroyalty of Peru in favor of Spain. 18th Century: Incan rebellion (Tupac Amaru II/Atahulpa). 19th Century: Creole rebellion. 1810-24: Wars of Independence, led by San Martín (Argentina) / Bolivar (Venezuela), financed by Chile. 1824: Peru independent. 1836-39: Peru-Bolivian Confederation (reunite) → War of Confederation. 1879-84: War of the Pacific, lost land to Chile. 1884- 1930 Aristocratic republic → reforms under Piérola. 1929: Economic crisis → numerous governments: APRA (Haya de la Torre)-Communist Party (Mariategui)-Rivero-Odria-Haya de la Torre - Godoy (military)-Belaúnde-Velasco-Bermúde-Belaúnde-Garcia-Fujimori (Shining Path)-Toledo-Garcia-Humala. Corruption. 1950: Earthquake Cusco. 1982-83: El Nino. 1988-90: Hyperinflation.

### Travel Seasons

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Wet (hot)												
Dry (cold)												
Best						high	sea-	son				
Budget												

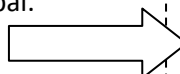
Altitude: 3827m. Hot days, cold nights.

### Bucket List For Free

- ☺ 'Free' (tip-based) walking tours via [FWT Peru](#) (10:30AM & 12:15PM @ Plaza Regocijo) or [Grand Free Walking Tour](#) (12:15 @ fountain Plaza de Armas).
- ☺ Climb up to Inca site Saqsayhuaman and visit *en pasant* de Pukamuqu (big Jesus overlooking the city).
- ☺ Free salsa classes at [Pariwana Hostel](#) & [The Temple](#).
- ☺ Free panoramic views at Plaza San Cristobal.
- ☺ Take public transport to visit Tipon.
- ☺ Free sights: Plaza de Armas, Plaza de las Narenas.

### Worth The Extra \$€¥

- 👍 Machu Picchu: Book the official Inca Trail via [Inti Sun Trek](#), or the Jungle Trek via [Reserv Cusco](#) (works out cheaper than arranging it yourself). Or hike the Ausangate.
- 👍 Ziplining: [Cusco Zipline](#).
- 👍 Salinas de Maras daytrip. Or [Planetarium](#).
- ☺ Cathedral: Free during mass (6AM-7AM). Other churches: Santo Domingo, San Blas, Iglesia de la Merced.



## Tourist Trap Alert

- ⊗ Cusco is 1 big tourist trip. Avoid if you can't handle that.
- ⊗ Unless you are disabled or over 70 years old, you can't be in the tourist bus without losing your dignity.

## Nights Best Spent

- ◆ The Temple, Calle Tecsecocha 282.
- ◆ Paddy's Flaherty's, Triunfo 124.
- ◆ Chilcano Pisco Bar, Calle Platero 326.

## ... Seated Down

- ◆ For cultural Cusco, check [this website](#).

## Festivals

- ⚙ Ch'iaraje: Ritual fight, 20-Jan.
- ⚙ Carnival: Religious, Feb.
- ⚙ Inti Raymi: Inca, 24-June.

## Mama Said

- ☠ Stay at the main streets and don't wander around alone after sunset.
- ☠ Watch your bag, buy a lock. Smartphones are popular. Cuzco is the pick-pocket capital.
- ☠ NEVER take an unofficial taxi or go in a cab with strangers. Let your hostel call one. Kidnapping, assault and robberies are a serious threat.
- ☠ Take day buses. Night buses are more dangerous in sense of accidents, robberies and hijackings.
- ☠ Be careful with drugs. Dealers cooperate with corrupt police officers.

## Next?

- ➔ In Peru: Sacred Valley, Puno, Arequipa, Lima.
- ➔ International destinations closeby: Bolivia, Chile.

## Sleep Cheap

- ❖ Pariwana Hostel, +5184233751, Meson de la Estrella 172.
- ❖ Dragonfly Hostel, +5184247058, Calle Siete Cuartones 245.
- ❖ Go [Couchsurfing!](#)

## Budget Bites

- ⌘ Mercado San Pedro: Cheap fruit, veggies and meals... and a sneak-peak in Peruvian culture.
- ⌘ Streetfood is dirt cheap. Tasty: salteñas, lomo saltado, quinoa, cuy (guinea pig), rocoto relleno, anticuchos, pollo a la brasa, picarones.
- ⌘ Go to local restaurants in [Calle Belén](#) and order *almuerzo* (lunch) or *menu del dia* for 4-10 soles (3-course meal).
- ⌘ Self-catering at Orion Supermercados.

## Free-Riding?

- Most distances in Cusco are walkable.
  - The bus system is used for long-distance travel. In the city or region *collectivos* are used. On the front you can find the destination.
  - Taxi's are cheap, but can be very dangerous in Peru. Armed muggings are common. Only use official companies, let your hostel call a radio taxi. Never go in a cab with strangers. As a woman, go with men you know.
  - Expensive trains go to Sacred Valley and Machu Picchu and Lake Titicaca: [Peru Rail](#).
- Tip: Download the free Triposo Peru app for an offline map, offline guide & more.

## Knowledge I'm Taking Home

- 📖 Hable español: [Mundo Antiguo](#).
- 📖 Dance the salsa: Free @ [Pariwana Hostel](#) & [The Temple](#).
- 📖 Peruvian kitchen: [Peruvian Cooking Classes](#) or DIY.

## The Earth Becomes My Throne