



PROJECT AMAZONAS

Serving the Amazon since 1994

EMERGENCY, HOTEL & AIRPORT INFO

Updated January 2022

If you have an emergency, a missed, delayed or cancelled flight, contact us so that we will know where you are, and how best to help. Likewise, if there is an emergency back home and family or work needs to get an urgent message to you, this information will keep you in touch. For delayed travelers, we won't leave you in Iquitos, but if we don't know where you are or when you are arriving, it is difficult to make appropriate arrangements. We will know if an Iquitos-bound flight is delayed and when it is scheduled to arrive, so there is no need to contact us in the event of a short delay, unless it is seriously delayed, and you are making alternate arrangements on another airline.

CONTACT INFORMATION

USA: Project Amazonas
700 Commercial Blvd., #200
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33334, USA

Cell Devon Graham: 001-786-232-2674 EST (general issues, logistics)

Finance Richard Jagusztyn: 001-954-491-1065 ext 2 (treasurer, this is an accounting firm so don't be surprised by the message - you're at the right place!

Email Devon Graham: devon@projectamazonas.org / Richard Jagusztyn: Richard@jagusztynpcas.com

PERÚ: If you are in Perú: you can also call the following Peruvian numbers. To call these numbers from locations outside of Peru, dial the international and country code “**011-51**” first (or +51 and the rest of the phone #).

Address A. C. Proyecto Amazonas
2288 Avenida de la Marina (this is not a walk-in office, however!)
Iquitos, Loreto, Peru

Devon Graham 921-902-195 (English, Spanish, French)

Luis Guerra Flores 945-053-664 (English, Spanish, German) – our transfer agent; purchase of in-country flights, hotel bookings, etc. Email: Luis@projectamazonas.org

Fernando Rios: 945-766-529 (Spanish) – our general manager in Peru. Email: gabinotulumba2013@gmail.com

Other Important Numbers

Hotel La Casona – a secure, centrally located hotel 1/2 block from the center of town and close to the riverfront. This is where we book trip participants.

Addy Jr. Fitzcarrald 147 (1/2 block from the Plaza de Armas which all taxi drivers will know)

Phone (011-51) 065-23-4394

Email contacto@hotellacasonaiquitos.com.pe

Clínica Ana Stahl – the best private clinic in town. Avenida la Marina 285, Iquitos.

Phone: (011-51) 065-25-2535 / 065-25-2518

Iquitos Tourist Police – Calle Sargento Lores #834; Phone: 065-24-2081; 965-93-5932

US Embassy (in Lima, Peru): if calling from US, first dial “51-1”, from Iquitos, first dial “1” Ave. la Encalada cdra 17 s/n, Surco, Lima: (tel) 434-3000; (fax) 618-2397

US Department of State (Washington DC). Office of Andean Affairs: (001) 202-482-0475

A Garmin In-Reach unit (texts only) travels with groups for emergency use, and we also use it to check in with Iquitos on a regular basis.

The international country code for the USA is “001” (if you are initiating a call from outside of the USA), the international country code for Peru is “011-51” (international dialing code and then Peru country code if initiating a call to Peru from outside of Peru. To dial landlines in Iquitos, first dial “065” if only a 6-digit number is given (this is a recent change and not all websites and brochures will have the full 9-digit number given).

If you are unable to contact us in person, leave a message telling us the problem and where we can get in contact with you –give phone numbers or email addresses slowly and clearly. We will respond as soon as possible.

HOTELS

The desk personnel at the hotels noted below speak English and Spanish.

Hotel Manhattan Inn (Lima): www.hmanhattan.com - If you need a hotel in Lima between flights, this hotel is clean, comfortable, secure, reasonably priced, and less than 5 minutes from the airport if you are getting in late or departing very early. The hotel address is Jr. Luna Pizarro 168, Urb. La Colonial, Callao, Peru. Telephone is (toll-free) 1-877-854-5470 (if calling from the US/Canada), 1-464-5811 (if calling from Lima) or 51-1-464-5811 (if calling from Iquitos). The hotel can be contacted by email at reservas@hmanhattan.com. Airport transfer service is available and is recommended (extra charge applies). For airport pickup, a hotel driver waits for you outside of immigration (or the exit gate for local flights) with a placard with your name on it. Check the website for current rates.

Victoria Regia Hotel (Iquitos): www.victoriaregiahotel.com - This is a comfortable 3-star hotel that many expedition participants select– it is midway between the city center and the Belen Market (5 blocks either way) and two blocks from the riverfront. The street address in Iquitos is Ricardo Palma 252. The local phone number is 065-23-1983 (if calling from outside Peru, first dial 011-51...). Email is reservas@victoriaregiahotel.com. Rack rates are \$110 and up for rooms (unless advance payment is made to the hotels bank account in Peru). If you book through us we can obtain a discounted rate of \$77/single or double. An excellent breakfast spread is included.

Hotel La Casona (Iquitos): contacto@hotellacasonaiquitos.com.pe. Local phone number is 065-23-4394 (if calling from outside Peru, first dial 011-51...). A centrally located, reasonably priced hotel popular with school, service groups, and budget travelers. Just 1/2 block from the city center and 2 blocks from the river front. Street address is Jr. Fitzcarrald 147 – most taxi drivers will know the place by name. Rates for rooms with fans are s/90 single, s/110 double and s/120 triple. For AC, add s/15 to the base rate.

Other Information:

Photocopy your passport photo page prior to departure, leave a copy at home and bring another copy kept apart from your passport. Double-check to see that your passport is current and not about to expire. Also, carefully check the information on your flight ticket itself to ensure that the dates and times are what you wanted. **This is important.** The airline agents at the counter will be going by what your ticket actually says, not the itinerary that your travel agent printed out for you, and which could contain an error. Many flights to Peru are overnight flights so departure and arrival dates may differ and could be a cause for confusion.

AIRPORTS

Common sense is your best tool. Keep all valuables in your hand-carry. When packing, remember that all bags will all undergo security checks, so you may need to open them for inspection – don't have them so tied/locked/taped or bundled up that it will be difficult to do so. Likewise, when you go through airport security with your carry-on luggage, remember that you will need to remove all metal objects from your person – loose coins, belt buckles, watches, etc., and may also be requested to remove your shoes (many have metal in the heels). In Peru you generally do NOT need to remove shoes. If in doubt about what to do, just ask politely and you'll have no problems. Remember the restrictions on liquids and gels in hand luggage: items must be 3 ounces in size or less and placed in a clear re-sealable 1-quart bag, limit 1 bag per person.

Lima Airport

Lima (LIM) is your most likely entry point into Peru. You no longer need to fill out an immigration or customs card (unless you have something specific to declare, which the average traveler will not have). Have a pen handy anyway!

If you are bringing in something worth more than \$100 that you will be leaving behind in Peru, you can get customs declaration forms immediately upon departing the immigration (and duty-free) zone. Walk into the baggage claim and make a sharp left and customs is right there. If you are bringing in regular personal (tourist) stuff, and will be taking most or all of it out with you again, there is no need at all to fill out a customs declaration card. You may be asked to put your luggage (including hand-carry) on a belt that will pass it through an X-ray machine, pick it up on the far side, and exit into the airport terminal public area.

Clearing Immigration

Depending on your time of arrival, there may be long lines at immigration but generally it moves very fast. Just get in a line and when you get to the immigration officer, give them your passport which will be scanned. You'll be asked how long you will be in Peru, and perhaps the purpose of your visit. Since the pandemic, passports are no longer stamped with an entry visa (generally for 30, 60 or 90 days, but you can ask for up to 183 days (6 months)). A digital copy of your passport will be made, and your face may be photographed, and your fingerprints recorded. There is no fee.

Getting Luggage & Clearing Customs

Once through immigration, proceed to baggage claim – there are several belts in Lima, just one in Iquitos. In Lima, check the screens to see which belt has luggage from your flight. Free carts are available. Once you find your luggage, proceed to the customs checkpoint where you may be directed to put your baggage (including hand-carry) through an x-ray machine. At the other side of the machine, just put your bags back on your cart and continue on through. Very rarely, you might be asked to open a bag if they can't identify what you have in it. The only potential holdup here is if you have some weird item in your luggage or a lot of electronic stuff (apart from what a tourist would normally carry) that you didn't declare on a customs form. If you are bringing in high-end electronics for sale or as gifts in Peru, you will need to pay ~30% customs duties, and have the bill of sale handy as proof of the price. You ARE allowed to bring in 1 laptop computer, 1 video camera, 1 regular camera, and various other items for personal use without paying duty. Many tourists do bring in more than one camera, but anyone who is obviously a tourist is rarely required to pay duties on a second or even third camera. On arrival in IQT, just pick up your bags and walk out of the baggage claim area – there is no inspection, but you may be asked for your baggage claim tags to verify that you have your own luggage, and not someone else's.

Baggage Claim area money exchange – If you want to change money in the Lima airport, go to the **Banco de la Nación** counter next to the customs offices. They will give you a **MUCH better rate** than the money changing booths in the baggage area, and also will not charge a commission.

Making your Connecting flight to Iquitos (if you're arriving in Peru in Lima)

As you leave the customs area in LIM, there will be a large crowd of people waiting for loved ones, and you'll also have to run the gauntlet of taxi-drivers trying to get fares. Just keep repeating "No Gracias - Conexión" and you'll be able to clear the gauntlet without problem. If you are going to a hotel in Lima and have pickup waiting for you, look for a hotel placard with your name on it. If you won't be leaving the airport, head straight onward to the airline check-in counters directly opposite the Customs exit. All the airline counters are in the same area so you only have to walk down the length of the concourse until you find yours (you may have to exit the concourse and walk along the outside sidewalk for a short distance, before re-entering the concourse and the airline check-in-counter that you need. Only ticketed passengers are allowed in the check-in area, so you may need to show your onward ticket to security to enter.

For flights to Iquitos via Lima, you will be probably be traveling on Latam (several other airlines also service the city, but often have only one flight daily). Most of the time it doesn't matter what time you arrive in Lima and how long it is until your flight to Iquitos – you can proceed to the appropriate counter and check in your bags for the flight. This is a huge plus, since if you have several hours to wait in the airport, you don't have to keep watch over your luggage. Once you have your luggage checked and boarding pass in hand, proceed upstairs to the flight departures area. On the upstairs level there are shops, a Starbucks (with free WiFi) and restaurants – all open 24/7. There are also ATM's and money changing booths. Payment at all airport businesses can be made either in Peruvian currency (solis), in US dollars, or in Euros. Nearly everyone in the shops or at the airline counters will speak English.

To get to the actual departure gates for your flight to Iquitos, you will need to pass through security. The domestic flight departure area may be closed during between midnight and 3 or 4 AM however, as there are not generally any domestic flights during those hours. Hang out in the comfortable seats in Starbucks instead! Once through security and in the departure lounges, there are more shops and coffee spots, and some very comfortable seats and TV screens with flight departure/arrival information.

Airport Security, Etc.

Lima and Iquitos airports are secure and clean. Most airline and security personnel, and store/restaurant employees in the airport speak English, so you'll have no problem navigating around the airport. Services are good and bathrooms are clean. There is no reason at all to feel uneasy about spending time in either airport. As anywhere, however, don't leave your hand luggage unattended, your wallet and passport out on a table, and so forth. Use common sense.

Making Alternate Arrangements to get to Iquitos

If your flight is cancelled and you can't re-book on the same airline for a later flight (due to lack of space or lack of other flights), you may wish to make alternate arrangements for getting to Iquitos. Check with one of the other airlines serving the route and see if they have seats available (Latam, StarPeru, Peruvian Airlines – Latam has the most daily flights). Most airlines will quickly sell you a one-way ticket if a seat is available, but if you do have to purchase another ticket, be sure to keep all receipts and documentation for reimbursement by flight insurance, or to be credited for the unused portion of your ticket by the airline that cancelled the flight. Taking a picture of the TV monitor listing the flight as "cancelled" is a good idea as well (proof that you didn't just "miss" your flight by being late). Be sure to let us know as well, so that our transfer agent can contact your original airline and ensure that they don't cancel the rest of your flight reservations just because you didn't fly with them on one leg of your scheduled travel.