



Welcome to Peru

Paddington Bear is from Peru.

He would like to tell you all about the country he is from.

Read the information with a grown up and talk about how things are the same or different to the UK.

Peru's official name is Republic of Peru (República del Perú).

This is the flag of Peru – what colours can you see?



Peru is located in South America. It is the third largest country in South America and the 20th largest nation

in the world.





The Peruvian population is estimated at 33 million.

The official language is Spanish.

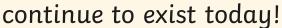
The capital city is Lima.

The currency of Peru is the Nuevo Sol.





Many great ancient civilizations inhabited Peru, including the Chíma, Nasca and Incas. These civilisations contributed to Peru's landscape greatly with beautiful temples and ancient ruins that



Machu Picchu

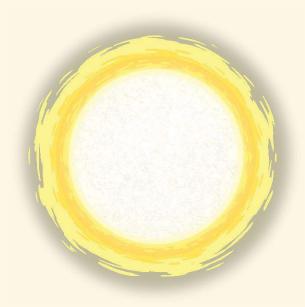
Mysterious ancient ruins located in the Andes. Once this was a large Inca city and now it is one of the most visited archaeological locations in Peru.

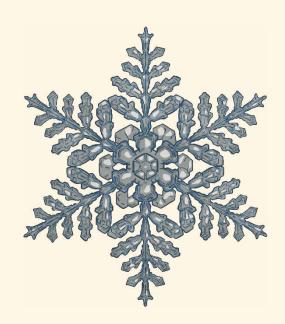


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Climate

The climate in Peru varies from tropical in the east to dry desert in the west and can be mild to freezing in the Andes.





Food

Chupe de camarones: Soup made from shrimp,

potatoes, milk and chilli pepper.

Cuy: Roasted or grilled guinea pig is a delicacy.

Anticuchos: Beef heart soaked in spices and grilled.

Tamales: Boiled corn with meat or cheese wrapped in

a banana leaf.



Would you like to eat these foods?



Festivals:

Fiesta de la Cruz: Festival of the Cross with parades, dancing and music in towns such as Lima, Ica and Cusco.

El Señor de los Milagros: A religious festival in Lima. 'The Lord of Miracles' is the festival celebrating Jesus Christ. Thousands of people celebrate it and wear bright purple on the day.

Inti Raymi: Festival of the Sun. The festival celebrates the winter solstice and worships the Inca sun god.



Peru has a famous mountain range called the Andes. These mountains are so tall and impressive that the Peruvian people often thought they were gods. Mammals such as llamas, alpacas and vicunas eat the grasses and special types of plants that grow in the Andes.



