



•REAL EXPERIENCES•

YOUR LOCAL TRAVEL GUIDE



10 SIGNIFICANT ADVICE BEFORE BOOKING TRAVEL IN 2024

A SELECTION OF THE BEST TRAVEL TIPS MADE BY OUR
CLIENTS AT YOUR DISPOSAL

WELCOME TO A NEW WORLD

As we discover a new world and explore different destinations, many more facts exist to consider than before.

The year the world stopped meant a radical change for travel and tourism worldwide. For that, we want to bring you a checklist of 10 essential tips to consider before booking a trip to any part of the world. Being well-informed means a hassle-free journey!

è improponibile, per
getto che il possesso
Melchior conferm
«Ho deciso: ti po
che è la tua fidanzat
«Moglie» la cotte
«Già, moglie, è se

Ruth prova un improvviso imbarazzo, e cerca via per uscirne. Nella foto che ha pensato di portare Melchior, Gerda sta comprando dei mugheri, come a Francia il Primo Maggio. Quasi certamente stava in place de la Bastille assieme a Capa. Ma ai tedeschi un'altra storia. Si dirà che stava scegliendo

cioc
dard su quella su
«Dici?»
«Tu li conosci troppo.»
Infatti, obietta Ruth, l'apparenza inganna. Lui non sciva a fare a meno di catturarla in chissà quanti fotogrammi, tra la folla di un comizio, in una trincea madrilenà; lei dedicato appena due ritratti.
amava farsi catturare o era lei che non
Melchior.
che se è solo



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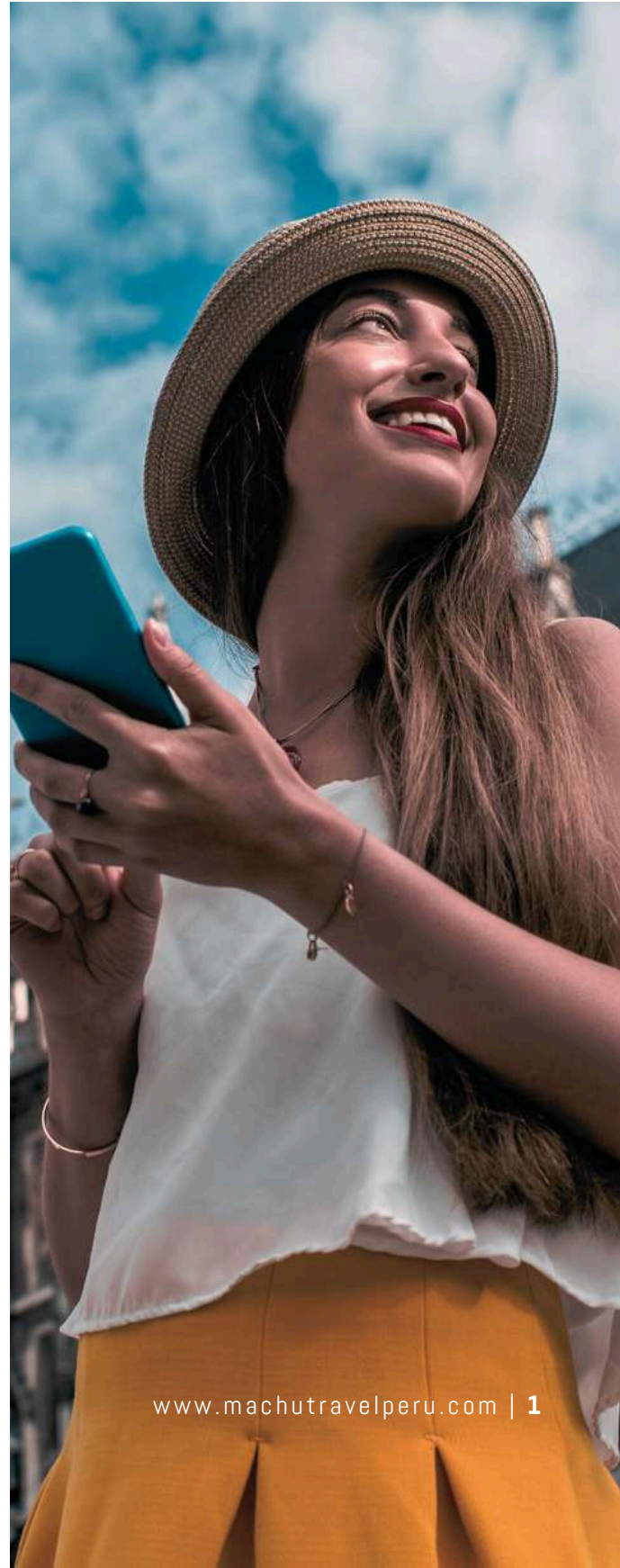
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1 CLEAR PROTOCOLS AND PROCESS

All travel agencies or tourism providers should have a list of clear protocols and processes to preserve users' and providers' health and hygiene.

- Ensure that health protocols follow **the host government's general guidelines** before, during, and after the provision of tourist services. Verifying through a certificate the government grants to the travel agency is straightforward.
- **These protocols must be clear and visible** through a link on the travel agency's website or in a document sent to the passenger once he contracts any service.

Finally, **the protocols must cover any travel agency activity and its service provider's actions**, such as transportation, guides, and even hotels. It is to guarantee a safe travel and experience.



2 TRAVEL INSURANCE FOR SAFE JOURNEYS



Good travel insurance is always at your expense and is essential to face any inconvenience during your trip. So, hiring a reliable and reputable one will be the wisest.

- First, **find out what aspects this insurance covers**, accommodation in case of quarantine, hospitalization, and access to medical facilities and medicines, among other ones.
- **Take your time and thoroughly research what type of travel insurance is best for you.** Consider the reputation and experience of the company that provides it. Remember that countries and travel agencies require tourists to take out travel insurance.

The small letters are crucial. Read the fine print of your travel insurance contract carefully. These often contain relevant information about what they cover and what they do not.

3 BOOKING FLEXIBILITY FOR CANCELED SERVICE

The health situation of 2020 and inopportune weather situations due to global warming made it clear that reservations of the services involved in a tourist package need a high level of flexibility.

- When contracting a tourist package or service with a **travel agency, ensure you are well informed about its cancellations**, refunds, and rescheduling activities policy. If necessary, print a copy of these policies to read carefully.
- **The tour provider must include flexibility in reimbursement** and postponement of dates, especially if health issues or adverse weather conditions make it impossible to develop a tourist package.

Suppose there will not be flexibility. In that case, the travel agency must give you an explanation and be reasonable (for example, policies of outside providers like hotels, airlines, etc.)



4 HEALTHY AND SECURE CERTIFICATIONS



After a significant worldwide health emergency, you'll want to ensure the travel agency you hire has official health and safety certificates provided by international and national organizations.

- First, **check if the travel agency has certifications endorsed by international organizations** such as Safe Travel from the World Travel & Tourism Council or the World Health Organization.
- Then, **check if the travel agency also has health and safety certifications** from the local government or its health agency.

Also, check if your tourism provider has international service quality certifications such as those awarded by the World Travel Awards since good service guarantees safety on your trips.

5 EASY ACCESS TO MEDICAL FACILITIES

Having easy access to high-quality medical care in the country you visit is of utmost importance. And it would be best to get it before visiting any country or hiring any tourist package.

- You must ensure that your **travel agency has a list of names and contact numbers of health centers**, pharmacies, and hospitals close to the attractions you visit. If necessary, this list should be at your fingertips.
- In addition, **you must have the contact number of your travel insurance company**, a family member in your country of origin, and your local primary care doctor.

If necessary, you must demand that the guides, even drivers, of the travel agency you hire know about first aid since they are the first ones who will provide you with assistance during an emergency.



6 ENTRY REQUIREMENTS



Countries have different borders and entry requirements for tourists (VISAS). Therefore, your travel agency should help with the necessary documents and conditions to enter the desired country.

- **Be sure to consult your travel agency about the country's entry requirements** before contracting any tour package or service with them. If any requirements change or are added, they will keep you informed.
- **Ask your travel agency if they will assist you and accompany you on-site** during any procedure you must present for your official entry into the country.

Ask your travel agent if the country you are visiting requires VISAs for fellow citizens of your home country and if there is any other requirement, such as a vaccine or health test, before entering the country.

7 TRANSPARENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS

As you have already seen, **the entire process before hiring a tourist service will be in constant coordination with your travel agency.** Demands transparency in communication and efficiency in the development of its services.

- **The travel consultant has to be patient.** Knowing to listen and take the time to explain the different processes, schedules of visits, and policies of booking among other important rules to have a nice journey without drawbacks.
- It is one thing to explain a certain visit or reservation rule and another to execute a reservation or purchase. In the second fact, **your travel agent must be as precise, direct, and fast as possible.** This is called effectiveness and will generate security.

Blunt transparency. If something goes wrong, a reservation falls through, a flight is canceled, a mix-up in your hotel reservation. Your travel agent should be completely transparent so that you can resolve it on the spot. We call this transparency.



8 NEW DESTINATION FREE OF CROWD



Visit a tourist country doing new activities adds value to your trip and allows you to have less contact with people or large masses of tourists. In this form, you can avoid infections by having exclusive experience.

- **Choosing solitary activities** or activities in which few people participate, such as walks, trekking, or hiking, will be highly recommended. In this way, it allows you to be in direct and exclusive contact with nature.
- **Choose private tours over group ones.** In this way, you will be able to avoid too many other people on your adventure and reduce the risk of any infection or contagion.

That your travel agent offers you innovative destinations, out of the ordinary in the country you visit, is a guarantee of exclusivity, a unique experience, and fewer people. For example, the Humantay Lagoon in Cusco.

9 RESPONSIBLE TRAVEL

Global warming, the greenhouse effect, and new diseases that require confinement have raised awareness about establishing responsible and sustainable relationships with Mother Nature for any sector, especially for tourism.

- Becoming aware starts with oneself. And reducing our carbon footprint is the first step. You can **choose to travel by ground transportation instead of taking a flight**. Using a canteen and refilling it before buying plastic water bottles.
- Trust your travel dreams to travel agencies that share your commitment to nature and the well-being of native communities close to tourist attractions. It is easy to identify them, by **searching for carbon neutral certifications or other responsible travel certifications** in the travel agencies.

Investigate how you can be a responsible traveler, promoting the defense of endemic animals, recycling and selecting degradable garbage, among other ways to promote eco-sustainability.



10 LOCAL TOUR OPERATORS WITHOUT INTERMEDIARIES



Knowing that the travel agency you are contacting operates its own experiences is a guarantee of good service. If you also check that this company is native to the area you are visiting.

- **Many agencies do not operate the experiences they offer** and are even foreign to the area they offer to visit. **These companies are intermediaries**, and you should be careful when hiring them. Do a little research on their website about their place of origin.
- A travel agency that offers experiences in attractions located in its same area of operation and development demonstrates experience and high knowledge in its services. **We call these companies tour operators.**

Tour operators also hire local people from the visiting area as their travel agents and guides. Who better than those who were born near the attraction and know the area better than anyone?



**“WHEREVER YOU GO
BECOMES A PART OF YOU
SOMEHOW”**