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## Port Information Matarani, (Arequipa), Peru



The magnificent "white city" Of Arequipa is located at an altitude of 2325m in the southwestern part of the Country; between the coastal area of the coastal desert and the spurs of the western Andes. It possesses a series of volcanic cones such as "El Misti", "Chachani", and "Pichu Pichu". This beautiful city is practically completely built out of sillar, a type of white volcanic stone. This is why Arequipa is called the White City ("la ciudad blanca"). It is a magnificent example of colonial architecture. The historic center of Arequipa was named a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2000.

### General information:

**Address of port:** Port of Matarani

**How to get around:** Shuttle bus will be available to the town of Mollendo.

Mollendo is characterized by its picturesque streets with wooden mansions. The Chiribaya Museum, displaying ceramics and textiles from the culture which bears his name, is found in the old railway station. From the ratti Mall above the cliff, there is a beautiful view of the beaches below.

**Language:** Peru's official language is Spanish, however English is spoken amongst tourist providers and professionals.

### Places of interest:

#### The Main Square

The square is surrounded by the Cathedral and three granite portals with curved ceilings of brick and lime (the Municipal Portal, the San Agustín Portal and the "Tuturutu", a 16th century soldier whose job was to bring news. The tip of The Misti, the volcano that serves as the square's faithful guardian, can be seen from here.

**Arequipa Cathedral and Museum** - Main Square. Hours of worship, Mon - Sat: 7:00 am - 10:00.

Museum opening hours Mon - Sat: 10:00 am - 4:15 pm. A ticket is needed to enter the museum.

Built from sillar stone between 1621 and 1656, the Cathedral was one of the city's first religious monuments. Following a fire in 1844 and an earthquake in 1868, Lucas Poblete was placed in charge of its reconstruction. Bishop José Sebastián de Goyeneche restored and embellished the Cathedral, with the help of his family. In 1850, the bishop decorated the interior with treasures and fine objects made by Francisco de Moratilla. The 12 meter high organ and the wooden sculptures of the twelve apostles are all features.

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All printed information has been provided by local tourist operators, information centers and the internet.

### **Santa Catalina Convent**

Many of the most characteristic religious complexes were built during the colonial period.

The Beautiful Santa Catalina convent was founded in 1580 and was enlarged over the centuries until it became a city within the city. Amongst the numerous things to see feature picturesque narrow streets, arch colonnades featuring courtyards, churches, chapels and plazas.

### **Mansions**

Arequipa's colonial mansions are distinguished by the Andean baroque (or mestizo) architecture of arched ceilings and large courtyards.

### **Museums**

As an important cultural and tourism center, the city of Arequipa has excellent archeological, colonial history and art museums.

### **Traditional neighborhoods**

San Lázaro neighborhood contains narrow passageways, small squares and large houses. El Solar, Bronce, Matadero and Cabezona tambos, premises notable for their colonial architecture, were the scene of fairs and trading.

### **Yanahuara Lookout**

Yanahuara lookout is located 2km north of the center of Arequipa, in Yanahuara district.

Built in the 19th century, this lookout has an exceptional view of the city and its guardian, the Misti volcano. Famous phrases of well-known Arequipeños are recorded on its arches. Sachaca and Carmen Alto lookouts also provide beautiful views.

### **Attraction outside of Arequipa: Mejía Lagoons National Sanctuary**

The sanctuary is located 20 km to the southeast of Mollendo (20 min. by car). An entry ticket is needed. Thousands of migratory birds, such as the player blanco find refuge in this coastal area. Frogs, lizards and the coastal fox are also part of the fauna. In the waters there are mullet species and the pejerrey fish.

### **Shopping:**

Arequipa was well-known in colonial times for producing embossed leather reins and saddles. This tradition continues today, on belts, furniture and stationery. The sillar stone, which covers the city in white, is worked by craftsmen who carve out decorative articles. The Arequipeños are also skilled in wrought iron work. Those with a taste for sweets should not overlook the famous Arequipa's chocolates and desserts.

### **Local food you may enjoy:**

Arequipa has a variety of good restaurants. It's picanterías. Where the famous gastronomy can be enjoyed, are outstanding. As well as its traditional chupes (different kind of soups), there are dishes such as rocoto relleno (a stuffed pepper), solterito de queso (a cheese salad), ocopa (potatoes with a spicy and creamy sauce) and, on Sundays, adobo arequipeño (a pork marinade). As a dessert, queso helado (milk ice cream) is recommended. Not-to-be-missed, is a visit to the San Camilo Market, where delicious cheeses and breads are to be found.

*We wish you a wonderful day ashore in Matarani, Arequipa, Peru.*

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