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**Belmond launches Belmond Las Casitas and South America's first luxury sleeper train,  
Belmond Andean Explorer**



**4 May 2017** – Today, Belmond enhances its Peru portfolio with the acquisition of Belmond Las Casitas in Colca Canyon and the launch of Belmond Andean Explorer, South America's first luxury sleeper train. The development marks progress on the Company's 2020 strategic growth plan and cements Belmond's position as leaders of luxury travel experiences in Peru's most exceptional locations.

## An authentic escape – Colca Canyon

**Belmond Las Casitas**, a 20-room property located in the Arequipa region of Southern Peru is set amongst the tranquil beauty of the Andes. Blending effortlessly with the natural environment, the intimate hotel fully matches with Belmond's brand personality - authentic escapes that relate to nature, culture and wellbeing.

Nestled amongst lush gardens, each individual casita features a private terrace with a heated plunge pool and sweeping views across the canyon. The Samay Spa, built around the energy of the canyon rock,



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offers treatments using natural ingredients from the hotel's kitchen garden and hypnotic views of the surrounding canyon, inspiring deep relaxation. Belmond Las Casitas also offers one of the most unique guest experiences in the world – a chance to view the flight of the Andean condors in their natural environment.

### Pioneering a new way to discover Peru

**Belmond Andean Explorer** departs on its inaugural journey today from Cusco to Arequipa on a two-night journey, setting a new level of luxury for rail travel. The elegant carriages take guests through some of the most breathtaking scenery in the world; offering vast, uninterrupted views of snow-capped mountains, enormous skies, majestic lakes and herds of alpacas, llamas and vicunas grazing on the altiplano.

Interior designs reflect Peruvian culture, mixing vibrant colours with natural tones and large picture windows offer the perfect vantage point of the ever-changing scenery as the train wends through the Andes. The observation car with an outdoor terrace becomes the social hub of the train by night; a place to enjoy a pisco sour and dance to live Latin music.

Executive Chef, **Diego Muñoz**, takes guests on a culinary journey of discovery with dishes prepared using Peru's abundant natural ingredients. From traditional corn with cheese, to alpaca tortellini and a mouthwatering creation of lime with melted chocolate and apple custard. For a culinary experience to savour, chef will host a ceviche class set against the backdrop of rolling Andes alongside the train.

Stepping off the train, experiences include a private tour of the floating islands on Lake Titicaca, the highest navigable water in the world, and lunch on a private beach with views across to the glacial peaks of La Paz, Bolivia, truly one of the most exceptional locations on earth.

To mark Belmond Andean Explorer's inaugural departure, dramatic drone footage [unveiled here](#) gives the world a glimpse of how it feels to soar through the Peruvian Andes as the train cuts through 'Big Sky' country along one of the world's highest rail routes.

### Exceptional Travel Experiences in Peru

Belmond Las Casitas and Belmond Andean Explorer further enhances Belmond's luxury travel experiences in Peru, now with six hotels and two luxury trains: Belmond Miraflores Park, the stylish city



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hotel in the quiet neighborhood of the bustling city; Belmond Palacio Nazarenas and Belmond Hotel Monasterio in the heart of ancient Cusco; Belmond Sanctuary Lodge, the only hotel at the entrance of the Citadel of Machu Picchu and Belmond Hotel Rio Sagrado, a complete escape in the Sacred Valley. Plus, Belmond Hiram Bingham taking guests from Cusco to Machu Picchu with typical lively Peruvian hospitality.

For further information please visit [www.belmond.com](http://www.belmond.com) or call 0845 0772 222.

A full selection of new images for Belmond Andean Explorer and Belmond Las Casitas can be downloaded from here: [Access Lightbox](#) - code 1234

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### About Belmond Ltd.

Belmond Ltd. is a global collection of exceptional hotel and luxury travel adventures in some of the world's most inspiring and enriching destinations. Established almost 40 years ago with the acquisition of Belmond Hotel Cipriani in Venice, the Company owns and operates 48 unique and distinctive hotel, rail and river cruise experiences in many of the world's most celebrated destinations. From city landmarks to intimate resorts, the collection includes Belmond Grand Hotel Europe, St. Petersburg; Belmond Copacabana Palace, Rio de Janeiro; Belmond Maroma Resort & Spa, Riviera Maya; and Belmond El Encanto, Santa Barbara. Belmond also encompasses safaris, six luxury tourist trains including the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express, three river cruises and '21', one of New York's most storied restaurants.

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