

WEATHER

Maximum temperatures goes from **34.5° C (94.10° F)** and minimum temperatures of **15.5° C (59.9 F°)**.

Summertime (December to April) is prime mosquito time and the temperatures is always hot; we recommend you to use bug repellent and a good sun blocker, wear a hat and drink plenty of liquid.

HOW TO GET THERE?

BY BUS

Take the Pan American Highway North
From Lima to Piura: 973 km/13 hrs
From Lima to Tumbes: 1,270 km/18 hours
From Trujillo to Piura: 420 km/6 hrs
From Trujillo to Tumbes: 698 km/10 hrs

BY AIR (Daily flights)

From Lima to Piura: 1 hr. 20 minutes
From Lima to Tumbes: 2 hours
From Trujillo to Tumbes: 40 minutes
From Trujillo to Piura is served by the Cap. Fap Guillermo Cocha Iberico airport.

SUGGESTED FOR

Handicraft collectors, who will find decorative pottery in Chulucanas and in Catacaos, as well as hats and silver and gold filigree.

Nature enthusiasts, who; upon visiting the Cerros de Amotape National Park, the Tumbes National Reserve and the Tumbes Mangroves National Sanctuary, will discover forests within very different ecosystems and abundant wildlife.

Bird watchers, who will have a day to remember in Puerto Pizarro and El Angolo. Water sports lovers; who enjoy surfing (Cabo Blanco, Organos and Mancora), sport fishing, diving (Punta Sal and Mancora) and rafting in the Tumber River.

People in search of sun, sand and sea; who will find this Mancora, Colan, Punta Sal and Zorritos.

EXCURSIONS

FROM PIURA

Catacaos: The skillful artisans in this town devote themselves to weaving, whether in straw or cotton, and to making beautiful silver and gold filigree.

Chulucanas: A relaxed city also known as “The Guitar of Piura” where tropical fruit trees like lima and mango grow. It is famous as well for its traditional handicraft, the Chulucanas pottery.

Huancabamba and Las Huingas Lakes:

These fourteen lakes, named after the main one, called La Negra or Huinga (which means “thick liquid” or “god of power”), are famous for their supposed medicinal properties. Most practicing shamans prefer going to Lake La Negra.

BEACHES

Colan: Sandy beach with warm and tranquil waters. The resort is characterized by its wooden mansions, from whose balconies you can watch some of the best sunsets found along the Peruvian coastline

Paita: Picturesque bay, also called “Paita’s window” because of the superb view it offers. There are exceptional mansions which look out over the ocean. 5 km from Paita is Yacila, a beautiful beach with high waves and a

fishermen cove, also famous for owning some of the most beautiful sunsets along the northern coast.

Los Organos: known for its magnificent waves and the abundance of coconut trees, whose shade are ideal for taking refuge from the heat of the day.

Cabo Blanco: Heading south. A small sandy beach, 0,6214 miles long and straight. The break is normal, yet it is a sport fisherman’s paradise, especially those after black marlins.

Mancora: One of Peru’s most beautiful and crowded beaches, stretching along 12.43 miles. During the swell season, the town is overrun by surfers.

FROM TUMBES

Tumbes Mangroves National Sanctuary:

The sanctuary protects the biodiversity of this salt and fresh water habitat, overflowed by plants and animals. Living there are 120 bird species, migratory as well as resident, and close to 100 fish species, not to mention the American crocodile. To enter the sanctuary, a permit issued by the National Institute of Natural Resources (INRENA) is required.

Tumbes National Reserve: This area is set aside for the protection of Peru’s many different

tropical coastal forests. It is a refuge for endangered endemic bird, animal and plant species, like the American crocodile.

Cerros de Amotape National Park: It protects the Equatorial forests that thrive in the foothills of the Western Andes. Plenty of interesting creatures live there, such as howler monkeys and peccaries, a type of wild pig.

BEACHES

Punta Sal: Calm, warm waters bathe its sands; average water temperature, an amazing 24C/75 F

Zorritos: A beach of white sands and warm water, it is ideal for sports like jet skiing, surfing and fishing.

Puerto Pizarro: An old beach resort and fishermen cove. Excursions to nearby Islands and crocodile farms are offered.

WHAT TO BUY?

Many different types of **handicrafts** are made in Piura. For instance, in Catacaos, artisans work in silver and gold, especially **filigree**, while those in Chulucanas (in the town of La Encantada) create eye catching **pottery**, while in Santo Domingo, it is about straw hats. If you go to Huancabamba, flower arrangements that incorporate sea shells are what you will find as well as traditional back-strap weavers who specialize in **saddlebags**, **shawls** and **ponchos**. Craftsmen in Tumbes are known for their wood carvings and works using marine products.

WHAT TO EAT?

Tumbes is famous for its fresh **cebiche de conchas negras** (an intensely seasoned dish of scallops, marinated in key lime juice, spicy chili peppers, salt and onions, served with boiled sweet potato and corn), its **caldo de bola** (a dish featuring bananas that are mashed and formed into a ball, then filled with beef and fired xxx) and its **majarisco** (green bananas, mashed and fried, accompanied by all sort of seafood). There are also many different styles of cebiches in Piura. You can use grouper or mackerel or any other type of freshly caught fish, but essential ingredients are limes from Chulucanas and **sarandaja** beans. Piura is also the land of the **seco de chabelo** (a combination of a strong flavored beef jerky with mashed, seasoned and fried banana) and the sudado de cachema (a strong soup made with weakfish and served with large chunks of onions and tomatoes). As you patiently wait for these dishes, fried **yucca** (cassava) and **chifles** (fried banana chips) are your hors d'oeuvres. And for dessert, try the sweet **natilla** (a custard) and to drink, a cold beer or **chicha de jora** (corn beer). There are fine restaurants in the cities of Tumbes and Piura as well as in Catacaos and the beaches of Organos, Mancora and Punta Sal.