



Luxury Travel
since 1927

South America to a T.

ESSENTIAL TOUR INFORMATION

PREPARING FOR YOUR TOUR

Passports

Your passport must be valid for at least six months after your return date; we recommend it be valid for nine months to avoid any problems. It must also have at least three blank visa pages (not endorsement pages), as travellers have been deported for not meeting this requirement.

Visas and Permits

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documentation. Failure to obtain correct documentation may affect entry into certain countries on tour. Visa information is correct at time of printing, however, as visa regulations are subject to change at short notice, APT recommends that you contact the relevant consulates for the latest information on visa requirements, costs and processing time. If you hold a passport from another country, check with your travel agent or APT about specific visa and permit regulations.

Brazil

From 10 April 2025, Australian passport holders are required to obtain a visa to enter Brazil. You must apply online through the consulate of Brazil website. The visa is valid for 12 months from date of issue, for stays of up to 90 days upon entrance into the country. New Zealand and United Kingdom passport holders do not require a visa to visit for stays of up to 90 days.

Chile

Citizens of Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom require a visa to visit Chile. You must apply online through the consulate of Chile website. Once the visa is issued you will have 90 days to enter Chile. The visa is valid for 90 days from the date of entry.

Galápagos Islands

As part of the Galápagos Biosecurity Agency's mission to conserve the unique species and ecosystems of the Galápagos Islands, it requires all passengers arriving into the archipelago to make a sworn declaration of the foodstuffs and goods they are entering with, as well as if they have been in contact with animals recently. Passengers flying to the Islands are now able to complete this declaration form online. Our guests will need to complete this online no more than 48 hours before their arrival to the Galápagos Islands.

To complete the declaration please visit:

declaracion.abgalapagos.gob.ec/declaracion

General Physical Fitness

APT's cruises and tours are not physically demanding. However, because of the nature of many of the sites you will be visiting, tours will require a good level of fitness and health to participate. Some trips may not be appropriate for guests with certain medical conditions and physical restrictions. Walking tours are often on uneven ground or cobblestones and may include stairs as well as steep inclines. Touring in Peru and Atacama will also be at high altitude. You should be able to stand on your feet for an extended period of time to visit museums, attractions and other sites, as well as when checking in for flights and cruises and at customs and immigration. If you are booked on an Amazon or Galápagos Island cruise, you will be required to disembark or embark your ship and travel ashore via a smaller vessel.

Travel Insurance

We strongly recommend purchasing comprehensive travel insurance that covers trip cancellation for delays, medical expenses, accidental death, lost luggage, medical evacuation and airline cancellation charges. Medical treatment, hospital stays, medical evacuation and other costs can be very expensive, and some hospitals in South America may require cash payment prior to providing medical services. Be sure to pack your policy in case you need to make a claim while on tour. Please add your insurance policy details to your tour personaliser. For all travellers to Ecuador, travel insurance including medical cover is compulsory. Entry may be denied if you cannot show printed proof of insurance upon entry.

Gratuities

Gratuities for your Tour Director and local guides are included in the tour price. See your itinerary for any variations to the above. Tipping cannot be redeemed for a cash refund. Gratuities are not included in our holiday extensions.

Gratuities When Touring Independently

Most restaurants include tax in their prices. Standard tipping for goods and service in most countries is 10% of the bill or more (15-25%) if you feel the level of service is superior.

- Taxi drivers should be tipped by rounding up the amount of the fare.
- Small tips of around US\$1-2 are reasonable for cloakroom and washroom attendants, ushers and museum tour guides.

Currency and Spending Money

As each South American country has its own currency, it is wise to take the majority of your spending money in small cash denominations of US dollars and your credit cards. You are able to change the US dollars into the local currency in most hotels. It is recommended that any US dollars you bring with you are dated 2009 or later. For the most up-to-date exchange rate, please check with your bank, a newspaper or xe.com (universal currency converter).

Argentina: Argentine Peso

Chile: Chilean Peso

Brazil: Brazilian Real

Ecuador: US Dollar

Peru: Peruvian Sol

Hotel receptions and after-hours money exchanges carry high commissions and some stores do have a minimum spend amount. Please note that most hotels require a credit card rather than cash card for a deposit upon checking in.

Valuables and Security

- Do not take anything with you that will create emotional or financial hardship if lost or stolen.
- Carry all documents, money, passport and tickets, etc with you.
- Do not carry these important items in your suitcase. You may find a money belt (worn inside clothing) useful while travelling.
- Never leave hand luggage unattended in hotel lobbies or dining rooms.
- Avoid exploring unfamiliar streets or areas on your own.
- Avoid excessive displays of jewellery or cash. When sightseeing, keep all valuables locked in the safe in your room.

See Your GP

Your GP or travel clinic is the best source of information about preventative measures including immunisations. We recommend you consult your GP or local travel clinic no later than 8–10 weeks prior to departure for detailed advice about preventative measures and vaccinations to ensure maximum pre-travel preparation.

Please take a copy of your travel itinerary with you to assist with the recommendations of appropriate medication and vaccinations. If you have health problems, ask your doctor to prepare your medical history for a foreign doctor. It should include your name, address, emergency contact, blood type, medical history, current medications and dosages, drug allergies, reasons for prior hospitalisation, and a list of vaccinations and dates.

Yellow Fever

In compliance with Ecuador's Ministry of Public Health, it is mandatory for travellers to present an International Vaccination Certificate against yellow fever upon entering Ecuador from the 12th May 2025.

The measure applies to those in the following circumstance:

guests of any nationality who have spent more than 10 days in transit or visit Peru, Colombia, Bolivia or Brazil before arriving in Ecuador.

This applies to our guests travelling to the Galápagos either with APT or on their own arrangements. You should see your GP or travel clinic for advice on the yellow fever vaccination. The certificate must indicate that the vaccine was administered at least 10 days prior to arriving in Ecuador. Exemptions apply to those over 60 or with medical conditions. Please see your doctor for an exemption letter as you will need to present this upon entry into Ecuador.

Medical Packing Essentials

- A copy of your prescriptions is vital in case of any health problems.
- Prepare a list of your medications, including the name, dosage, prescribing doctor and their phone number.
- Pack sufficient medication for the duration of your tour. Your medications should be kept in their original containers so they can be easily identified, and they should be kept close at hand in your purse or carry-on bag.
- A copy of your eyeglass and/or contacts prescription.

Allergies

If you have a food allergy or another condition that needs to be managed on tour, please advise your booking agent as soon as possible, as well as your Tour Director upon arrival, as most suppliers require advance notice to accommodate this. In some cases, you might be asked to fill out a form or waiver. All suppliers will endeavour to cater for allergies, but this may not always be possible and cannot be guaranteed.

Sleep Apnoea

CPAP machines can be accommodated on tour, but we require advance notice along with the dimensions, weight and, if possible, the make and model of the machine. This will then be passed on to our suppliers to ensure it can be accommodated. Additionally, you will need to take your own power adaptor.

Don't Go Viral!

Practising good hygiene is vitally important in stopping the spread of common viral infections such as colds, flu or gastro, which can spread quickly in an enclosed area such as a coach, train, plane or cruise ship.

Colds and Flu

Viral respiratory infections are the most common infectious illnesses affecting travellers. Colds and flu are primarily spread by people coughing, so please practice hygiene and respiratory courtesy – wash your hands often, cover your coughs and sneezes, and use anti-bacterial wipes or hand sanitiser frequently (i.e. after shore excursions, prior to meals and throughout the day). Influenza is commonly contracted while travelling overseas. The flu vaccine protects against the flu viruses likely to circulate during flu seasons. Consult your GP for advice.

Vaccinations

Vaccinations are required for travel to some parts of South America. This includes the Yellow Fever vaccination. All travellers should visit a doctor or travel clinic no less than 8-10 weeks prior to departure, to discuss recommended vaccines.

Gastro and Traveller's Diarrhoea

Traveller's diarrhoea is the second-most common infectious illness affecting travellers. The illness can be due to a number of different bugs including viruses and bacteria. Viral gastroenteritis is generally spread from person-to-person contact, whereas bacterial gastroenteritis is generally spread from consuming contaminated food or water.

APT Health and Safety Protocol

APT has created a Health and Safety Protocol that all our Tour Directors are required to follow. You may be requested to assist in reducing the spread of viruses if you are showing symptoms while on tour. If you are showing symptoms of a cold or a virus while on tour, you may be asked to wear a face mask, have meals in your room or cabin instead of the dining room, or remain in your hotel room or cabin until the symptoms improve.

Water and Food Safety

- It is best to drink bottled water when travelling, but always ensure the seal is intact.
- Bottled water should always be used for cleaning your teeth unless you are specifically advised the tap water is safe. If you are unsure, please ask your Tour Director.
- When visiting countries where you are unsure about general hygiene practises, please take care if buying food from street vendors or in small restaurants away from your hotel, cruise ship or recommended venues. At these places, avoid raw fruit and vegetables, dairy products, including ice-cream, as well as meat and fish not properly cooked.
- It is generally safe to eat cooked meats and vegetables prepared in tourist hotels and tourist area restaurants.
- Fruit that you peel yourself is considered safe.

- You can feel safe eating anything served to you at the tour hotels and while on board your cruise.
- Don't buy alcohol from street vendors.

Avoiding Malaria

Antimalarial medication is recommended for some parts of South America. See your GP or visit a travel clinic at least eight weeks before you travel for your recommended vaccines and/or antimalarial medication. Whether or not you are taking antimalarial medication, it is important to protect yourself from mosquito bites, especially at dawn and dusk when mosquitoes are most active.

Altitude Sickness

Acute Mountain Sickness (AMS) is a condition caused by ascending to high altitudes. Symptoms include headache, lack of appetite, nausea, dizziness, fatigue or weakness. We recommend consulting your GP about the need for preventative medication. To reduce symptoms of altitude sickness, we recommend that you drink plenty of fluids, such as water, fruit juices, herbal tea (or the local 'mate de coca' if in Peru), and avoid caffeinated and alcoholic drinks.

If you experience any of these symptoms, please inform your Tour Director. Some parts of Peru, including Cusco, are situated at an altitude of up to 4,000 metres above sea level. At these altitudes, the lack of oxygen affects most people to some extent until they become acclimatised.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Luggage

Contact your airline or travel agent for specific information prior to departure, as size and weight limitations can vary. Porterage for one suitcase is included in the tour price. Regardless of what the international air baggage limitations are, the maximum limit on internal flights within South America is 23kg per person. International airlines may impose fees or require you to remove articles if weight or size limits are exceeded. In addition to your main piece of luggage, you may also bring a small carry-on bag to take on the coach with you.

Clothing

The dress code on tour is casual, as there are no formal nights or dress requirements. In addition to your usual clothing and packing items, we suggest bringing a good pair of walking shoes, lightweight clothing that can be layered, a jacket or parka, and a sweater. In the mountainous areas, including Machu Picchu, bring your runners or boots, warm clothing for the cold nights and your hat and sunscreen.

Inca Rail

On Inca Rail train journeys, you will be restricted to a day pack with a maximum weight of 5kg for your overnight stay in Machu Picchu. Your main suitcase will be awaiting your arrival at your hotel in Cusco. It is also a good idea to put a label with your name, address and telephone number on the inside of your suitcase and hand luggage.

Disruptions to Your Itinerary

Under normal operating conditions, itineraries will proceed as outlined in the brochure, however, sometimes for reasons beyond our control, it may be necessary to make alterations to your itinerary. We recommend purchasing comprehensive travel insurance to cover unforeseen events, as APT is not liable for any resulting costs. Additionally, you are not entitled to any refund for any alterations to your itinerary caused by events beyond our control.

Electrical Appliances

Power points across South America vary between countries. Power outlets will vary between 120 volts and 240 volts. There is, however, a mixture of both two-plug sockets and three-plug sockets. If you have an Australian, New Zealand, European and US adaptor, you will be able to use all power sources while in South America.

Food and Beverages

Meals are included as per your tour itinerary. Breakfast is typically served buffet-style with hot and cold options. Lunches and dinners, when provided, may be buffet or set menu with two or three courses. Water, tea, and coffee are included with all meals. Welcome and Farewell Dinners include one alcoholic drink (house wine or beer). Additional drinks are at your own expense.

APT is committed to reducing waste by removing single-use plastics – starting with water bottles. An APT reusable water bottle will be provided at the start of your tour, which you will be able to refill at your accommodation.

Hotel Accommodation

Throughout South America, twin-bedded accommodation is very common and double beds are either not available or only available in limited numbers. If you have requested a double bed, we will endeavour to meet your request, but please note this may not always be possible.

The majority of hotels and lodges do not have tea and coffee-making facilities in the rooms. Facilities may be available on request at an additional charge. Hair dryers, irons and ironing boards are also usually available on request at most hotels. Some hotels may have a separate shower, or shower over bath.



Iguazú Falls, Argentina

AT THE AIRPORT

Reconfirmation of Flights

Contact your airline(s) or travel agent at least 72 hours before your initial flight to confirm your departure details.

Late or Missed Flights

In the unfortunate event that you miss a flight, please immediately advise the airline representative that you are a tour passenger bound for a specific location, as well as the date and time you're supposed to join your tour or to check-in to a pre-tour hotel.

Flights within South America

All flights in Economy Class flights are included within South America once the tour commences. APT has chosen the best available connections for your holiday, some of these may be early morning or late afternoon departures. We find flight schedules can change regularly and your APT Tour Director will keep you informed on any changes that occur on tour. Since we cannot guarantee preassigned seats or do a group check-in ahead of time, your Tour Director will assist you at the airport.

Check-in

It is important that you arrive at the airport at least two hours before domestic flights and three hours in advance for international flights. This will allow you time to check-in your baggage and present your passport and ticket, get seat assignments and boarding passes and make your way through security procedures to the boarding area.

Restrictions – Checked Luggage

International airlines may impose fees or require you to remove articles if weight or size limits are exceeded. We recommend that you contact your airline(s) or travel agent for specific information prior to departure, especially as size and weight limits can vary between airlines.

Restrictions – Hand Luggage

Limit hand luggage to one bag that fits under your aircraft seat or in the overhead compartment. Make sure you have your passport, airline tickets, medication and all your travel documents in your hand luggage.

Lost or Delayed Luggage

Sometimes luggage is delayed during air transit. It is, therefore, recommended to take a change of clothing and any essential medication in your hand luggage, or pack some clothing in your travel companion's bag. Place a copy of the hotel contacts inside each piece of luggage. If your luggage is lost, this will help the airline find you. Should your luggage be delayed, it is the responsibility of the airline to deliver it to you. Claims for reimbursement should be submitted directly to the airline. A claim form should be filled out at the appropriate airline desk upon arrival. If you need assistance in contacting the airlines for information regarding your delayed luggage, please ask your Tour Director or local guides.

Airport and Airline Security

Most countries abide by the following guidelines regarding liquid, aerosol and gel restrictions on flights. We advise you to check with your airline for clarification of regulations before you leave. Each container of liquids, aerosols or gels in your carry-on luggage must be 100ml or less. All must be sealed in a one litre (or less) transparent, resealable plastic bag. You may still carry prescription medicines and non-prescription medicines through the screening point that you need for the flight. Proof of need may be required. You will have to surrender any liquids, aerosols or gels greater than 100ml that you are carrying at the screening point. This includes duty-free items (at many airports, you are able to purchase duty-free items after you have passed through the screening point for your international flight). Permitted items include empty containers such as mugs or flasks; cosmetics and toiletries, such as sanitary items, talcum powder, contact lenses and lens solution; solid foods; medicines including prescribed medication (e.g. insulin) and essential non-prescribed medication. Items over 100ml not permitted include drinks in cans or bottles, cosmetics and toiletries that are in liquid or gel form, such as perfumes, creams and products in pressurised containers including hairspray, aerosol deodorants, shaving foam or gel, and liquid-based food products.

Customs

To prevent the introduction of exotic pests and diseases on your return home, arriving travellers are screened and luggage is often inspected or x-rayed by customs or quarantine officers. All food and other such items of plant and/or animal origin must be declared.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE INFORMATION

Transfers

Airport transfers within South America are included on the first and last day of the tour package, and with pre/post-tour accommodation in conjunction with an on-tour night at the APT hotel, booked by APT. Transfers cannot be re-routed to other pick-up points or destinations. Refunds will not be given for unused transfers. If you miss your pre-booked transfers, you must make your own way to or from the hotel at your own expense. Transfers must be booked and details advised to APT at least 60 days prior to travel, otherwise transfers cannot be guaranteed. Transfers in connection with domestic flights within South America are included as per the itinerary.

Santiago Arrivals

For arrivals in Santiago, please remain in the arrivals hall and do not engage or accept the services of taxi drivers in this area. Unauthorised taxi operators are known to solicit fares and offer assistance to arriving guests. APT is not responsible, nor will a refund be applied should you choose to take a taxi to your hotel instead of your organised APT transfer, unless a pre-arranged agreement is in place or directly advised by our operator, SETOURS.

Local Contact

You will be welcomed on arrival by an APT representative in the arrivals hall, who will be holding an APT sign. If you cannot locate your transfer representative or require any assistance on arrival in South America, please call our local SETOURS operator in Lima, Peru, on +51 987 524 620

Hotel Information

Check-in

The official check-in time at hotels is 3pm local time; however, where possible, the hotel will try to have your room available earlier. If your flight arrives earlier, luggage can be stored at the hotel before check-in and will often be delivered to your room later.

Checkout

Checkout times are usually at 11am or midday. For later departures, most hotels will store your luggage until you leave.



GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS CRUISE

Yacht La Pinta

Capacity: 48 passengers

Cabin Information

All La Pinta cabins feature:

- Choice of bed configuration
- Bedding is fine cotton down duvets and soft pillows
- Large desk/seating area
- Hair dryer
- Personal care products
- Safety box
- PA system
- Air conditioning
- Plush bath and beach towels
- Bedside tables with reading lamps
- Large floor-to-ceiling window offering panoramic views

Crew

You will be escorted by your APT Tour Director as well as the La Pinta crew consisting of 27 members and three certified Galápagos naturalist guides.

Fitness

A reasonable level of fitness is required for treks and snorkelling. Wet and dry landings require transferring from the vessel to a Zodiac in potentially rough waters, then stepping into knee-deep water

or onto rocky shores. Daily walks on sharp volcanic rocks and loose stones add another level of difficulty.

Excursions and Activities

Amenities include: use of glass-bottom boats, kayaks, pangas (inflatable dinghies for coastal exploration) island sightseeing, naturalist guides, lecture services in English/Spanish only, wetsuit rental, and snorkelling gear.

Yellow Fever Certificate

Please ensure you carry a copy of your Yellow Fever Certificate with you, if you are planning to spend more than 10 days in Peru, Bolivia, Brazil or Colombia prior to entering the Galapagos, Ecuador. The certificate needs to be presented upon arrival in Ecuador and must indicate that the vaccine was administered at least 10 days prior to arriving.

Internet

Internet connections on board consist of two computer stations in the library and Wi-Fi in the yacht's social areas; due to the Galápagos' remote location, internet connections are intermittent and low-bandwidth.

Meals and Beverages

All meals are included. Enjoy exceptional dining experiences with soft drinks and juices (excluding virgin cocktails) included, as well as 24/7 coffee station with tea, coffee and water.

Medical

There is no doctor on board however all crew are trained in first aid.

Ship Payments

La Pinta accepts payments by cash in US dollars, or by Visa, Mastercard or American Express, fees may apply.

AMAZON RIVER CRUISE

Delfin III

Capacity: 44 passengers

Cabin Information

All Delfin III suites feature:

- Deluxe beds with fine Peruvian linens
- Choice of bed configuration
- Bedside tables with reading lamps
- Organic bath amenities
- Internal communication system
- Individual climate control
- Large mirror in bathroom
- Daily maid service
- Nightly turn-down service
- Hair dryer
- Easy under-bed luggage storage
- In-room safe
- Elegant, contemporary design
- Seating area

Crew

You will be escorted by your APT Tour Director as well as the Delfin III crew consisting of 29 members.

Fitness

Activities involve transferring from the main vessel to smaller motorised canoes, so guests need to have reasonable mobility. While the river waters are typically calm, there can be slight movement.

Excursions and Activities

A shore excursion can be anything from exploring remote tributaries to spotting monkeys and birds along a jungle trail, from visiting a local village to fishing on one of Amazonia's beautiful lakes. They vary in level of difficulty, but most travellers who are reasonably fit will have no trouble participating in every excursion. Kayaks are available; however, they are extremely limited. Each kayak fits two people.

It is recommended you bring a plastic bag for any electronics you bring on the kayak to prevent them from getting wet.

Internet

Please note the Delfin III has no internet on board.

Meals and Beverages

Passengers will enjoy a menu of fresh, delicious Peruvian fare (with a bit of continental influence), whether served on board or out on an adventure. Dinner each evening promises to be a culinary feast for the senses. If you have special dietary requests, please inform APT at the time of booking, or at least 30 days prior to embarkation. Every effort will be made to cater to special dietary needs and to accommodate special requests, subject to a given product's availability in Peru. Bottled water, tea and coffee is always included. Juices are included at breakfast, and regional juices are given upon embarkation and after every excursion.

Selected alcoholic drinks (excluding premium brands), domestic beers and house wines are included. We do not recommend drinking water from the tap. When you board the vessel, you will be supplied with fresh bottled water in your room. However, because plastic bottles are so polluting, we encourage our guests to refill their bottles, that way we can all help with preserving this fragile ecosystem. Bottled water will be placed and replenished in your suites and during the daily activities. Water refill stations are available throughout the vessel. Water used in other operations on the boat (cooking, juices, etc.) are fully treated and proven safe for consumption.

Medical

There is no doctor on board however all crew are trained in first aid.

Ship Payments

You can pay your bar bill, as well as any purchases in the boutique, either in US dollars or with Visa or American Express, fees may apply.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Australian Embassies and Consulates

Argentina

Villanueva 1400, Palermo, Buenos Aires
Phone: +54 11 4779 3500

Brazil

St de Embaixadas Sul 801 – Brasília, Federal District
Phone: +55 61 3226 3111

Chile

Isidora Goyenechea 3621, 12th and 13th floors, Las Condes, Santiago
Phone: +56 2 550 3500

Ecuador

Pinturas Unidas S.A., KM 16.5, Via Daule, Guayaquil, Ecuador
Phone: +59 34 601 7529

Peru

Av La Paz 1049, Piso 10 Miraflores, Lima 18
Phone: +51 1 630 0500

Emergency Contact Information

In case of an emergency please use the below contact details.
State your name, APT tour information and booking number,
if available, at the time of emergency.

Peru emergency number: +51 987 524 620

Metropolitan touring number: +1 407 378 2053

Golden Galápagos touring number: +59 3 98 605 3917

New Zealand Embassies and Consulates

Argentina

AAC, Carlos Pellegrini 1427, C1011 CABA, Argentina
Phone: +54 11 5070-0700

Brazil

SHIS QI 09 Conjunto 16 Casa 01, Brasília, Federal District
Phone: +55 61 3248 9900

Chile

12th floor, Avenida Isidora Goyenechea 3000, Las Condes, Santiago
Phone: +56 2 2616 3000

Peru

Leonidas Yerovi 106, Oficina 42, San Isidoro, Lima
Phone: +51 1 422 2999

Useful Travel websites

Customs Australia: customs.gov.au

Customs New Zealand: customs.govt.nz

Customs UK: hmrc.gov.uk/customs

Australian Government Advisory and Consular: smartraveller.gov.au

New Zealand Government Travel Advisory: safetravel.govt.nz

UK Government Travel Advisory: gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice



APT TRAVEL CENTRES

AUSTRALIA

Building 4, Level 1, 15 Cochrane Road,
Moorabbin, VIC 3189

P: 1300 278 278 (within Australia)

W: aptouring.com

NEW ZEALAND

Level 1, 20 Augustus Terrace,
Parnell, Auckland 1052

P: 0800 278 687 (within New Zealand)

W: aptouring.com

UNITED KINGDOM

3rd Floor, 52 Grosvenor Gardens,
London SW1W 0AU

P: 0800 012 6686 (within the UK)

W: aptouring.com

NORTH AMERICA

Suite 530, World Trade Centre,
999 Canada Place, Vancouver,
British Columbia, V6C 3E1

P: 1800 290 8687 (within North America)

W: aptouring.com



This document is designed as a guideline to assist you when preparing for your tour. Much of the information within is subject to change and while all care has been taken to ensure all information is correct at time of printing, we cannot take responsibility for any subsequent changes. Printed in Australia. Effective May 2025. Australian Pacific Touring Pty Ltd. ABN 44 004 684 619. ATIA accreditation #A10825. APT-6147



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