Electric Adaption in Peru

Electrical Current

Electricity in Peru is 220 Volts and 60 Hertz (cycles per second). If you plug in a 110-volt appliance, prepare yourself for a puff of smoke and a broken piece of equipment.

If you want to use a 110-volt appliance in Peru, you’ll need to buy a power adapter. But always check before spending money on an adapter, as many modern laptops and digital cameras can safely take both 110 and 220 volts (they are dual voltage). So if you're taking a laptop to Peru, you'll probably only need a plug adapter (see below).

Electrical Outlets in Peru

There are two types of electrical outlets in Peru. One accepts two-pronged plugs with flat, parallel blades, while the other takes plugs with two round prongs.
Many Peruvian electrical outlets are designed to accept both types (see image below).

If your appliance has a different plug attachment (such as a three-pronged UK plug), you’ll need to buy an adapter. Universal plug adapters are inexpensive and easy to carry around. It’s a good idea to buy one before you go to Peru (most major airports have a store selling plug adapters). Some international electric adapters have a built-in surge protector, providing an extra layer of protection.
Electric Adaption in China

Electronics vs. Electrical Devices

Before packing, understand the difference between electronics (computer, digital camera charger, DVD player) and electrical devices (hair dryer, electric shaver). Your electronics will likely work with the use of an adapter. To make sure, check the AC power adapter (that big black box that goes between your computer, for example, and the plug in the wall). On the back you'll see some information. Look for "Input". If it says ~100V-240V, you're fine to travel with it all over the world. All you'll need is a wall plug adapter (more about those below). If you're still not sure, you should check online with the manufacturer.

Your electrical devices are a different story. Your hair dryer, curling iron or electric shaver will require a converter if you're coming from a country that uses 110V (North America, Japan). A converter is a very large implement that converts the input from 220V to
110V for your device. If you don't use a converter, at best, you'll ruin your device. At worst, you'll see fireworks coming out of the wall socket.

My advice is to leave anything that requires a converter at home. Some larger, fancier hotels offer a 110V plug in the bathroom but it usually comes with the warning "for electric shavers only" (does anyone still use those?). Nearly all hotels provide hair dryers these days and if you absolutely need other things, like hair curlers, then look for a travel set that doesn't require a converter.

The Accepting Wall Sockets in China
See the photo above. This is what most wall sockets look like these days in China. The top socket takes a two-prong plug. The prongs must be the same size ("Type A"), although many modern devices with Type A plugs have one wider prong. This type won't fit into a Chinese wall socket and will require an adapter. This socket will also take a "Type C" or "Type F" plug that is standard in Germany. (If you're coming from Europe, all your devices will work - China uses the same voltage.)

The bottom socket in the photo takes "Type I" plugs common in Australia and New Zealand. (All your devices will work if you're coming from Australia/NZ as well as you use the same voltage as China.)

Adapters to Bring or Buy

You can buy adapters before you leave at travel-supply stores and electronic stores. Airports also sell universal adapters, especially in the international departure gate area. But if you don't get one before you go, you'll be able to pick them up easily in China (and they'll be a
whole lot cheaper). Your hotel should also be able to supply you one for free during your stay.