

## 8. The North of Peru

### Trujillo



Trujillo is the fourth biggest city in Peru and the most important city in the north of the country. Culturally, it is very diverse. Its city center encompasses splendid, colorful colonial mansions, beautiful patios, decorated wooden balconies and iron-wrought windows. In the surrounding areas, there are many ruins, tombs and ancient buildings of the Chimu and Mochica cultures. Thanks to its proximity to the coast, it is blessed year round with a mild climate. Huanchaco is set on the coast just 9 miles (15 km) away from Trujillo, this former

fishing village is now a well-known tourist spot. Its main attraction are the *caballitos de totora*, little reed boats constructed in the shape of seahorses, as they have been since the time of the Chimu and Mochica civilizations. Today, Huanchaco also attracts surfers from all over the world.

### Chiclayo

Chiclayo is the second most important city in the north of Peru and the capital of the Lambeyque region. It is set on the coast of the Pacific Ocean, and offers long beaches with good surfing. The city and surrounding areas are known for their impressive archaeological excavation sites, charming colonial architecture and natural beauty.



### Chachapoyas



Chachapoyas is the capital of the Amazonas Region in the northeast of Peru. The town was an important junction on jungle-to-coast trade routes until a paved road was built in the 1940s through nearby Pedro Ruíz, by-passing Chachapoyas altogether. Nowadays this pleasant colonial settlement is a busy market town, and it makes an excellent base for exploring the stunning ancient ruins left behind by the fierce civilization of the Chachapoyas, the “People of the Clouds.” Vast zones of little-explored cloud forest surround the city of Chachapoyas, concealing some of Peru’s most fascinating and least-known

archaeological treasures.