Architecture Walking Tour

The star of Arequipa’s architecture may be its unique sillar, but it isn’t the only feature. Jump from baroque to churrigueresque (an elaborate and intricately decorated Spanish style), and from ornate to the austere living quarters of nuns.

**Start** Plaza de Armas  
**End** Casa Ricketts  
**Length** 1km; three hours

1. **Start in the Plaza de Armas.** Arequipa’s main square. Its centerpiece is La Catedral, Peru’s widest cathedral.

2. **Check out the Jesuit Iglesia de La Compañía.** Next door is the ornate Claustros de la Compañía, an outdoor museum with boutique shops.

3. **Take a peek at the small gallery and interior courtyards of ornate Casa Ricketts** (2054-21-5060; San Francisco 108; 9am-6pm Mon-Fri, to 1pm Sat), the city’s most splendid working bank.

4. **Head back behind La Catedral.** Turn right on Calle Santa Catalina and then take the first left down Moral to the baroque Casa de Moral (2054-21-4907; Moral 318; admission S5; 9am-5pm Mon-Sat).

5. **Pass treasure-laden antique stores on the way to Monasterio de Santa Catalina** and its fascinating, sprawling interior.

6. **Head east along Zela to the Iglesia de San Francisco** (2054-22-3048; Zela 202; admission S10; 9am-noon & 3-6pm Mon-Sat). Witness the giant crack left by an earthquake in the cupola.

7. **Finish with a pisco or meal in one of the many bars and restaurants along Calle San Francisco.**