



577 Thompsons Point Rd., Charlotte, VT
Sarah_peruhayllitour@gmavt.net

TRAVEL to PERU
Pre-extension 3 day Lima
Thursday-Saturday Nov 4-Nov 6

Main Trip
Sunday-Sunday Nov 7- 14



Journey to Lima, Cusco, Sacred Valley, & Machu Picchu

Peru – Also known as The Kingdom of the Sun, Peru is one of the most multicultural countries of Latin America due to the mix of native Indian, Afro-American and European cultures. Peru is a country where the traditional customs have transcended through the years and they are the basis for the current way of life. The mix of different landscapes and people is the reason why Peru is a country so interesting to visit.

The City of Kings was once the scenario of the war against the Spanish conquerors, who came in a ruthless search for the gold that was hidden somewhere in Peru. However, their most wanted treasure was the Lost City of the Incas: Machu Picchu, which they never found. However, Machu Picchu is not the only highlight of Peru. We will also have the opportunity to visit Cathedrals and Plazas in Lima, Cusco: the ‘Naval of the Earth’, the Sacred Valley with its many wondrous sites, as well as many small and fascinating villages and sites in-between. We are also very fortunate to have one of the best guides in all of Peru! One that has guided the stars, as well as having won multiple “Peruvian Guide of the Year” awards!

Day 01: Pre-extension to Lima 11/3/2021

***Wednesday - depart from the US to Lima**

Transfer airport-hotel

Upon arrival in Lima, transfer to our hotel.

*This schedule may change depending on flight times from the USA.

Overnight at **Jose Antonio Hotel 4***(standard room)

Day 02: Pre-extension to Lima Friday 11/4

Thursday,

Lima - 500 ft.

B, L

Lima – The Peruvian capital was founded in 1535 by the Spanish conqueror Francisco Pizarro. Lima is also known as the “City of Kings.” In it you will encounter colonial richness and the bustling vitality of a modern metropolis. It is divided into 43 districts, each with its own magic and magnetism. The weather tends to be warm and humid throughout the year.

We will be picked up at the hotel and start our tour through Lima. Our first stop will be at the popular **local market**. Fruits and vegetables are exhibited in abundance and available for tasting. Meat and fish are offered fresh and directly brought from the butcher or harbor.

We will then continue to the **Plaza de Armas** with its colonial buildings such as the Government Palace, the Municipality, the Palace of the Archbishop and the **Cathedral**, amongst others. All these buildings are gathered around this historical square. We will visit the Cathedral, which was built in 1625 in Baroque style. It contains a unique collection of sculptures and paintings dating from the 17th and 18th century. After the visit to the historic city center, we go to the modern quarters of **San Isidro and Miraflores**. In San Isidro, we will visit the Olive Park where old olive trees survived next to modern shopping centers, and in Miraflores, the Love Park from where we have a view over the cliffs and the Pacific.

Our lunch today will be at a local restaurant where we will be sure to be treated to authentic Peruvian food. After lunch, and a bit of free time, we will head to the water fountain park where we will experience 13 first class water fountains surrounded by great architectural monuments. It will be a fun and different opportunity to photograph. If we stay late enough, we may also be able to enjoy a laser show that projects colors onto the mist of fountains accompanied by music.

Overnight at **Jose Antonio Hotel 4***(standard room)

Lunch - Restaurant at **Mixtura Gourmet Bar** located in the Center of Lima

Day 3: Pre- Extension to Lima Sat 11/6

Thursday,

Lima

B, L

Today we will visit Huaca Pucllana, the adobe-and-clay pyramid, which has seven staggered layers, and was built by the Lima Culture in around 500 A.D. It served as an important ceremonial temple and administrative center for the various cultures which prospered in the Lima region before the arrival of the Spanish conquistadors. Here, we will be able to observe an interesting juxtaposition of the ancient ruins in amongst the bustling cities of Miraflores and San Isidro.



After which we will head to Barranco, considered a Bohemian barrio just south of the ritzy Miraflores and home to many of Peru's leading artists, musicians, designers and photographers. Barranco is filled with many colonial and Republican style houses (called "casonas"), flower-filled parks and streets, and beautiful beachfront areas. Here we will have time to roam and photograph before treating ourselves to a gastronomical feast and one of Peru's top restaurants (this dinner will be own your own).

We will be then transported back to our hotel in anticipation of meeting our fellow travelers and starting the main workshop.

Overnight at **Jose Antonio Hotel 4***(standard room)

Lunch - Restaurant at **Songoro Cosongo** located in the hearth of Barranco

Main Trip to Peru

Day 1: **Lima - Cusco -Sacred Valley** **B, L**

Sunday 11/7 **Lima - 500 ft. to Pisac 9, 744 ft and the Sacred Valley- 9,514 ft.**

At a time to be determined all participants will meet at the Ramada Inn across from the Lima airport, prior to our departure to Cusco. Those on the pre-extension will be transported from their hotel at the predetermined time.

Once in Cusco, we will make our descent into the amazing Sacred Valley. Here we will first go to Pisac which is set high above a valley floor patch worked by patterned fields and rimmed by vast terracing. The stonework and panoramas at Pisac's Inca citadel are magnificent. Pisac also offers a very colorful "Market Day" where we can purchase handcrafted jewelry and leather, beautiful woolens and ponchos, carpets and alpaca products.

We will end our day early so that you can rest and acclimate to the altitude.

Overnight at **Hotel Sonesta Posada del Inca Yucay 3*** (standard room)

Lunch - Restaurant at **Cuchara de Palo** located in Písaq

Day 2: **Maras and Moray, Chinchero**

Monday 11/8 **Sacred Valley - 9,514 ft. to Chinchero 12,343 ft** **B, D**

We will be picked up at the hotel and driven to **Moray**, a Pre-Incan site built with round, **agricultural terraces**, some of them up to 500' deep. Then we will be off to visit the **salt flats** near the small village of **Maras**. Since before Incan times, salt water has been distributed in pans and dried for harvesting, making Maras, in Inca, times an important **trading center**. The harvesting of the salt here, as in the past, is done by hand.



After lunch, we will head to the old **Inca town of Chinchero**, situated about 17 miles north of Cusco. The town is topped by its main mountain, the nearby Chicon. The main square has an impressive **Incan wall** with ten alcoves in trapezoidal form, all in perfect condition. One of the most important **colonial churches** of the region is to be found here with its Baroque altars and richly decorated walls. To finish the day we will be treated to a homestyle family meal in the community of Taucac.



Overnight at **Hotel Sonesta Posada del Inca Yucay 3*** (standard room)
Dinner - Homestyle family meal in the community of Taucac.

Day 3: Tue 11/9

Willoq (11, 300'). -Ollantaytambo

Sacred Valley- 9,514 ft.

B, L

Pick up from our hotel and transfer to Willoq, where if we are lucky we will be met with a song and dance. This community, it is thought, maintains a direct line of the last Incas, and consequently is one of the last towns where you can have the living culture of Peruvian ancestries. Willoq is known for their textiles and clothing and very colorful ponchos woven in different shades of earth, chullos decorated with beads and buttons, embroidered monteras, and ribbons. Holes, balls, looms, pots with boiling dyes, dye plants, raw fibers, all this attracts the attention of the photographer and will make for an outstanding photographic day.

We then head back to Ollantaytambo, a massive citadel which served as both a temple and a

fortress. This afternoon we will explore the town and wonder how the amazing Incas built their terraces with the stones that were quarried from a mountainside 3 miles away!



Overnight at **Hotel Sonesta Posada del Inca Yucay 3*** (standard room)
Lunch - Homestyle family meal in the community of Willoq.



Day 4: sacred Valley – Aguas Caliente – Machu Picchu

Wednesday 11/10 Sacred Valley-Aguas Calientes - 9,514-6,693 ft. B, D



***Machu Picchu**, also known as “The Lost City of the Incas”, might be the most familiar symbol of the Inca Empire. It was built around 1450 AD at the top of a granite mountain but abandoned a hundred years later, at the time of the Spanish conquest of the Inca Empire. Forgotten for centuries, the site was brought to worldwide attention in 1911 by an American historian Hiram Bingham. UNESCO declared it a World Heritage Site in 1983. Recently it also has been named one of the “New Seven Wonders of the World” and the most ecological travel destination in the world. Machu Picchu is a perfect example of the Incas ingenious engineering and masonry techniques, which enabled them to transport heavy stone blocks up the mountain side and to form them into amazingly polished stones that fit together perfectly without any cement. There are many theories about Machu Picchu, but one thing is for sure – it is one of the most impressive and breathtaking sites you will have ever visited.*

We will be picked up from our hotel and transferred to the train station in Ollantaytambo to take the train to Aguas Calientes.

This afternoon, and after lunch, we will enjoy a guided tour of the marvelous citadel, including the main plaza, the royal quarters, Temple of Three Windows, the circular tower and the sacred Sun Dial and burial grounds.

Overnight at **Hotel Waman Machupicchu 3*** (Standard room)
Dinner at **Restaurant Indio Feliz** in Aguas Calientes Machupicchu.

Day 5: Thur 11/11 Machu Picchu – SunGate



Aguas Calientes-Cusco - 6.693-11,150ft

B, L

Today, for those that wish, there will be an opportunity to return to Machu Picchu the citadel and hike up to the SunGate. This will require an early morning departure of 5:00 am! It is a moderate hike to **Sun Gate (Intipunku)** which was believed to be the main entrance to the Inca city of **Machu Picchu**. After the 1.5 hour hike up, you will be rewarded by an incredible vista of the citadel (Machu Picchu) below. Those that choose not to get up early, may revisit the citadel during the morning. There will be no guide on this day, so you can wander around the citadel on your own and get that shot that no one else has! It is important to note that the last opportunity that morning to enter the Citadel will be a 10:00 am .

We will then meet back down in the village of Aguas Caliente around noonish where we will have lunch and a bit of free time before boarding the train back to Cusco.

Overnight at **Hotel Andean Wings 4*** (Standard room)
Lunch at **Restaurant El Mapi** in Aguas Calientes Machupicchu.

Day 6 Friday, 11/12

Cusco

Cusco - 6,693-11,150ft

B, L

*The “Navel of the Earth“ is another name for **Cusco**. During the florescence of the Incas almost every path and way led to the capital of the empire. Also nowadays, almost every visitor to Peru eventually comes to the city located at 11,155’, which unites archeological evidence from different epochs. You will not only find Incan walls and temples but also colonial mansions and Catholic churches. In combination with the flair of modern Cusco, it is one of the most fascinating cities in the country.*

We will be picked up at the hotel and start our **tour through Cusco** and its surrounding ruins. In the heart of the Incan empire, at the **Plaza de Armas**, we begin our tour with the visit of the impressive **Cathedral**. Then we will make our way through little alleys that are edged with Incan walls until we reach the temple of the sun, **Koricancha**. Also known as the Santo Domingo Church is, without doubt, amongst the most beautiful examples of Spanish architecture superimposed on Inca constructions to be found in Cusco. This complex was built over the original Qoricancha, meaning the Temple of the Sun. It contains original Inca architecture.

After lunch, we will visit the outer parts of Cusco where one can find important ruins of the Inca Empire. Between them, the most important is the archaeological park of the fortress-temple Sacsayhuaman. Here we will see the precise zigzags of massive stones, which over the centuries have remained intact which is considered unique in the world due to its singular architectural characteristics. In building Sacsayhuaman, the Incas used stone blocks of up to 29 feet high and 16 feet wide, each fitting perfectly. The fortress is approximately 1,200 feet long and has doors, galleries and watchtowers at strategic points.



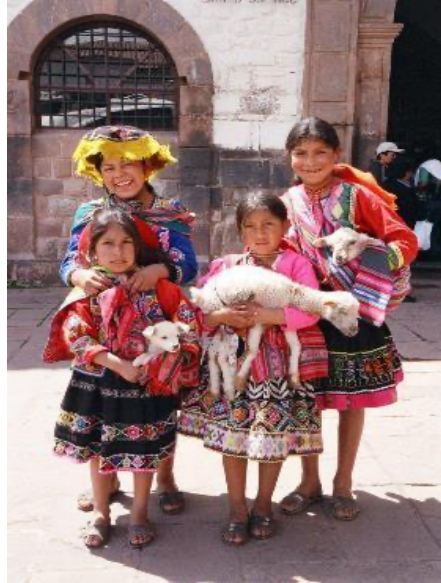
Overnight at **Hotel Andean Wings 4*** (Standard room)
Lunch at **Restaurant La Retama** in Cusco.

Day7: Market Day
Saturday, 11/13 Cusco - 11,150 ft B, D

Today we will have the opportunity to go where tourists seldom go, authentic Peruvian markets! We will start at the San Pedro Market, a local market that is overflowing with produce, meats and wonderfully displayed fruits. Then we will head to the Sabado Baratillo, a true Peruvian flea market. Here not only will you find amazing opportunities to photograph a wide array of people from all over haggling for wares, but you may be able to find a treasure or two to take home!

Late afternoon learn from the experts in Pisco about Pisco's history, flavors, and aromas, as well as mixing and tasting the local drink. Includes a guided tasting of the best piscos served in half ounces and a pisco sour making session. Afterwards we will reconvene for our farewell dinner.
Afternoon free

Overnight at **Sonesta Hotel Cusco 4*** (Standard room)
Dinner at **Restaurant Tunupa** in Cusco.
Pisco Lessons at **Republica del Pisco Bar & Restaurant**



Day8:

Sunday, 11/14

Cusco - 11,150 ft

B,

Sadly leave this wonderful country for your flight home. We will have suggestions for things to do if you have a late departure.





Trip Includes

- 7 nights in excellent (3-4*) Hotels
- All ground transfers by private bus or vans
- Entrance fees to sites as mentioned in itinerary
- Domestic air, including flights from:
 - Lima to Cusco
 - Cusco to Lima
- Services of award winning guides and experts throughout the tour
- Guide & bus driver tips and taxes
- All meals as specified (8 Days: 7B, 6L, 3D)

Trip Excludes

- Round trip intercontinental air fare
- Passport fees
- Services, meals and drinks not mentioned in itinerary
- Meals not included 4L, 7D – tipping for these meals and housekeeping*
- Optional extra days in Lima and related meals and transfer
- Laundry, telephone calls and expenditures of a personal nature

- Travel Insurance - * health and evacuation insurance are required on this trip
- Entrance fees at optional sites/activities
- We recommend bringing 100 new \$1. bills to be used for tipping housekeeping and meals when you are on your own – 10 % is standard tipping when dining at a nice restaurant.