

Cultural Adventures Tours for the Young-at-Heart

Discover Peru Escorted Trip April 15 - 25, 2016

Cultural Adventures tours offer you the opportunity to learn about a **fascinating culture** as part of a **very small group**. You'll enjoy **select experiences** away from the usual tourist sights during a visit that combines **soft adventure with maximum comfort**. Our Peruvian guides have extensive knowledge about the history, culture, flora & fauna of Peru. When you take a *Cultural Adventures* trip, you are supporting local people who provide information and services.

- Combine guided tours with opportunities to explore on your own
- Visit Lima, Cusco, Machu Picchu, the Sacred Valley of the Incas & Lake Titicaca
- Enjoy meals featuring Peruvian cuisine and performances by local musicians featuring traditional instruments
- Travel with an escort who will provide valuable information and travel tips before and during the trip
- Group size is limited to 10

Highlights:

- Tour of both modern and historic colonial Lima
- Culinary tour in Cusco and a visit to the San Pedro market
- Visit a rural Andean community to learn about the local culture and traditional weaving
- Explore the ruins at Ollantaytambo, an ancient Inca town in the Sacred Valley
- Learn about Machu Picchu with a knowledgeable guide with time to explore on your own
- Enjoy a day trip to Taquile & Uros Islands on Lake Titicaca

Trip Fee: \$3495 per double occupancy; Single supplement \$360

Included: All hotels, flights within Peru, land transportation, tours, airport transfers, guides, escort & 20 meals. **Not included:** International flight to Peru, and, if applicable, local fuel surcharge.

Itinerary:

Day One – Apr 15 – Arrive in Lima on your own. You'll be met at the airport and escorted to our hotel. Hotel La Antigua Miraflores or equivalent

Day Two – Apr 16 - City tour, Lima – We'll spend the day learning about historical and current day Lima. Lunch will be at a restaurant overlooking the harbor. The evening is free for you to explore the Miraflores district of Lima with its shops, parks, and cliff walk. You might decide to enjoy dinner at a local restaurant. (B, L)

Day Three – Apr 17 – Sacred Valley - After breakfast we'll fly to Cusco and begin to experience the Peru of the Incas. We'll drive in a private van with a guide to wander through the Sacred Valley of the Incas. Lunch at a hacienda will feature local specialties followed by an exhibition of Peruvian Paso Horses. Tonight we'll stay in Ollantaytambo, a living Inca town inhabited since the 13^{th} century. Hotel Pakaritampu or equivalent (B, L)

Day Four – Apr 18 – Ollantaytambo - A short drive will take us to a rural Andean community where we'll learn about traditional Andean weaving and Andean culture. The afternoon is free for you to explore Ollantaytambo on your own. (B, L)

Day Five - Apr 19 – Machu Picchu - From Ollantaytambo we'll board a morning train for Machu Picchu. This is about a 2-hour ride offering spectacular views of the Andes. On our arrival our guide will meet us and take us through the main areas of Machu Picchu. After lunch at the Machu Picchu Sanctuary Lodge, you'll have time to walk through the ruins on your own or climb to the Sun Gate with me. We'll take an evening train back to our hotel in Ollantaytambo. (B, L)

Day Six – Apr 20 – Cusco – Sacsayhuaman – As we drive back to Cusco we'll visit the ruins of Puka Pukara, Kenko, Tampu Machay, and the renowned fortress and religious site of Sacsayhuaman, famous for its cosmic energy. Tonight we'll have dinner together at one of Cusco's excellent restaurants. Hotel Rumi Pumku or equivalent (B, D)

Day Seven – Apr 21 - Cusco – A private tour of the major sights in Cusco with a knowledgeable local guide begins our day. Highlights include the Plaza de Armas (main square), the Cathedral, Santo Domingo Church and the San Blas neighborhood, home to many local artists. After lunch there will be time to explore Cusco on your own using your free museum pass. This evening you can enjoy a folk dance performance. (B, L)

Day Eight – Apr 22 – Cusco Culinary Tour – Today we spend a leisurely day learning about the food of Peru. We'll visit a local market to see the variety of ingredients available to Peruvian cooks, have a cooking lesson and enjoy a cool drink Next we'll sample some local food at a traditional restaurant. The evening is free for you to enjoy your last night in Cusco. Those interested might want to visit the Cusco Planetarium. (B, L)

Day Nine – Apr 23 - Puno - From Cusco we'll drive to Puno on the shores of Lake Titicaca stopping for lunch and to view highlights along the way. We'll arrive in Puno in the late afternoon giving us time to explore the town or just relax with a glass of wine or a Pisco Sour before dinner. Tierra Viva Puno Plaza or equivalent (B, L)

Day Ten – Apr 24- Lake Titicaca – After breakfast we'll begin our day on Lake Titicaca, the highest navigated lake in the world. A highlight of the day will be a visit to the floating islands of the Uros and Taquile Isla where we'll have lunch. As we travel on our private tour of the lake we'll learn why the Incas considered it a sacred place. (B, L)

Day Eleven – Apr 25 - Lima – We'll have lunch overlooking the lake. On our way to the Juliaca airport for our flight back to the Lima airport we'll stop at a local farm. The trip ends when we arrive in Lima in the late afternoon. Your flight home can be scheduled for 8 pm or later. (B, L)

An optional trip to the Nazca lines is available after this trip, Apr 25 – 27. If you are interested, contact Connie at 317 908 1220 for detailed information.

Participant's Background Information:

- * US citizens do not need a visa to visit Peru.
- * No immunizations are required for this trip.
- * Participants must be able to climb a few flights of stairs and walk on uneven surfaces up to a mile at a moderate pace over the course of the day.
- * Basic travel insurance with medical evacuation coverage is mandatory insurance to cover trip cancellation is highly recommended.
- * Please check with me before purchasing your airline tickets to ensure your trip is confirmed with the minimum number of participants required to operate.
- Deposit of \$750 will reserve your spot. Payment of the balance is due by January 9, 2016. Refunds, less \$75, will be returned upon written request until Jan 9, 2016. After this date, no refunds of any type will be made. Save \$100 by paying the trip balance by December 15, 2015.

If you are ready to explore the land of the Incas, send your \$750 deposit written to <u>Cultural</u> <u>Adventures</u> to Cultural Adventures, 129 Cranberry Lane, Centerville, MA 02632.

For more information go to <u>www.culturaladventures.info</u> or contact Connie Champlin at 317-908-1220 or at <u>cchamp@culturaladventures.info</u>.