Peru

Lima • Cusco • Puno • Puerto Maldonado

June 17 - 27, 2014







- San Francisco convent
- Korikancha Temple
- Taquille Island

- Temple of **Ollantaytambo**
- Alpacas and Llamas
- Picara Museum

- Sacred Valley of the Incas
- · Machu Picchu
- Sandoval Lake

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PERU June 17-27, 2014

Tuesday, June 17, 2014 • Depart

Our journey begins as we board our flight to Lima, Peru. Upon arrival at the airport this evening, we meet our guide and transfer to our hotel for a good night's rest.

Wednesday, June 18, 2014 • Lima



After breakfast this morning we begin to explore Lima on a guided tour of Lima's colorful streets and plazas. We start with a spectacular view of the Pacific Ocean at Love Park. Then we head to the **Huaca Pucllana**, the ceremonial center of the Lima culture. Later we visit **San Isidro**,

the financial center of the city for a panoramic view of the Huaca Huallamarca, the ancient pre-Incan shrine. We continue on to the Main Square where the Government Palace, the Town Hall and the Cathedral are located. We visit the 17th century San Francisco convent and discover the mystery of its catacombs. We return to our hotel to freshen up before we transfer to a local restaurant for dinner. Overnight in Lima B/D

Thursday, June 19, 2014 • Cusco

This morning we transfer to the airport and fly to Cusco. On

arrival we transfer to our hotel. This afternoon starts with a visit to the **Korikancha temple** with all its magnificence. The temple, whose Quechua name means "Gold Enclosure" still bedazzles us



with the thought of its gold covered walls. Then we continue to the Main Square to visit the Cathedral and its valuable and beautiful colonial masterpieces. Next we see the nearby ruins of Kenko, Puca Pucara, Tambomachay and Sacsayhuaman. We return to our hotel for dinner and overnight. **B/D**

Friday, June 20, 2014 • Cusco - Sacred Valley

Today the Sacred Valley of the Incas is waiting for us!! En route we stop at Awanacancha, to admire Andean camelids such as alpacas and llamas and learn from local inhabitants about traditional dyeing and knitting techniques. Later we



explore the Pisac Market and have time to shop for handcrafts and stop by the wood ovens for a delicious empanada or a piece of bread. We have lunch at a local restaurant. Then we continue on to Ollantaytambo, a small town full of local color

dating back to Inca times. We visit the main temple used as a fortress during the Inca resistance. With its breathtaking views, it is an amazing photo opportunity. We return to Cusco for overnight. Dinner is in our own tonight. **B/L**

Saturday, June 21, 2014 • Cusco - Machu Picchu

After breakfast, a train trip to see one of the Seven Wonders of the World awaits us. We arrive at the Aguas Calientes sta-

tion and board the bus to travel up the winding road to Machu Picchu, amid a spectacular view of the Urubamba River and its canyon. The Lost City of the Incas, Machu Picchu, will astonish us with its terraces, ceremonial shrines, steps and urban areas. After a guided visit, we have time



to explore the fortress. We have lunch at a restaurant in Aguas Calientes. We return by train to Ollanta train station then transfer to Cusco for overnight. Dinner is on our own. \mathbf{B}/\mathbf{L}

Sunday, June 22, 2014 • Puno

This morning we board our coach and head to Puno. Along the way, we stop at Andahuaylillas for a visit to its beautiful chapel as well as at Racchi where we see the Temple of the Wiracocha god where the walls and narrow streets stand out. After stopping for lunch, we have an opportunity to see the view at La Raya, the natural border between Cusco and Puno. Before arriving in Puno, we visit the Pucara Museum where we have a chance to purchase one of the local classic bull shaped ceramics. We overnight in Puno. Dinner is on our own tonight ${\bf B}/{\bf L}$

Monday, June 23, 2014 • Puno

We spend our day exploring Lake Titicaca. First we visit the Uros, the friendly inhabitants of these handmade islands made of totora reeds. Then it's off to Taquile Island, where the settlers still maintain their ancestral traditions and colorful typical clothes. We have a great opportunity to explore the island and get the best view of the lake. A box lunch is provided on the island. Return to Puno this afternoon. **B/L**

Tuesday, June 24, 2014 • Puerto Maldonado

After breakfast, we fly to Puerto Maldonado then transfer from the airport to the river port on the Madre de Dios River. A 25 minute journey down the Madre de Dios River by motorized canoe brings us to the riverside trailhead to Sandoval Lake Lodge. From here the trail takes on a two mile hike through the secondary forest, until we reach a small canal where we board canoes and are paddled about 200 yards through a flooded forest of 100-foot tall Mauritia palms. As the canal opens onto the shimmering surface of the lake, we transfer to a catamaran to traverse the lake to the lodge. After

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lunch and a brief rest we learn about the history of the lodge and the philosophy of its founders. Then we board the catamaran again and set off to explore the entire west end of the lake. Here, in the flooded palm forest we drift to the sounds of hundreds of Red-Bellied Macaws as they return to the palm forest for the night. This



macaw species are found locally in parts of the Amazon, always living in flooded palm forests such as the beautiful palm stand at Sandoval Lake. At 500-800 birds, this flock of macaws at Sandoval Lake is currently the largest reported in the world for this highly specialized macaw. As night falls we will look for the large and extremely rare Black Caimans. If it is a clear starlit night, we will also be able to float in the middle of the lake to marvel at the brilliance of the sky and listen to the sounds of the forest. We return to the lodge for a short video or slide presentation and dinner. At any point, we can step out from the bar to admire the wide variety of nocturnal moths, beetles and praying mantis attracted to our black light in the lodge clearing. For those with lots of energy, our guide will take us on a short night-walk into the forest behind the lodge. **B/L/D**

Wednesday, June 25, 2014 • Puerto Maldonado

A pre-dawn wake-up call will enable us to be on the lake for sunrise and a hopeful encounter with the family of Giant Otters who frequent the lake. Sandoval Lake offers abundant wildlife including over 40 species of birds resident to its lake margins, most of the fish-eating water birds around the lake actively fish



in the early morning as well, and this outing should provide excellent views of the prehistoriclooking Hoatzins. We return for a late breakfast, before we set off into the cool cover of the tall virgin forest near the lake to see some towering wild Brazil Nut trees and a demonstration of how

our hosts collect, open and commercialize this important natural product. This afternoon, we board the catamaran to explore the eastern part of the lake, where we might see one of the many species of monkeys who live in the forest near the lake, such as the Brown Capuchin Monkey and Squirrel Monkey. After dinner we have an opportunity to try and spot some Black Caimans on the lake, or to go on a short night walk through the primary forest. **B/L/D**

Thursday, June 26, 2014 • Puerto Maldonado

After early breakfast we travel by motor canoe for the 35 minute return trip to the Puerto Maldonado Airport while taking advantage of valuable early morning wildlife activity along the river. We fly to Lima, where we catch our return flight home this evening. \mathbf{B}/\mathbf{D}

Friday, June 27, 2014 • Arrive USA

We arrive back in Chicago at the end of our overnight flight.

Tour Price: \$2,749* per person, land only

*based on a minimum of 30 paying participants in double occupancy accommodations

Single Supplement \$465 (subject to availability)
Triples available but not advised

YOUR TRIP INCLUDES:

- Land transportation via air-conditioned motor coach
- Domestic airfare as listed in the itinerary
- Accommodations (double-occupancy) in four star hotels
- Services of local guides and staff on each segment of the tour
- **Meals** as indicated in itinerary
- Admission to all activities listed on itinerary
- Luggage handling of one piece per person at hotels
- All taxes and tips for services provided, except end of tour tips for tour leader and driver

NOT INCLUDED:

- Airfare and related taxes and fees
- Meals not indicated on itinerary
- Beverages, except for juice, tea, coffee and water with breakfast and coffee, tea and water with dinner
- End of tour gratuity for tour leader and driver
- Items of a personal nature such as passport fees (Passport must be valid for six months beyond return date.)
- Optional insurance for health, baggage and cancellation (*This insurance is available and highly recommended*)

Payment Schedule:

A deposit of \$500 is due with registration. Final Payment is due 90 days before departure. Invoice will be sent out prior to final payment. *Early registration is encouraged*.

Currency:

Currency exchange rates fluctuate constantly. In the event of a significant drop in the value of the dollar, we reserve the right to add a currency surcharge to the price of the tour.

Refund/Cancellation Policy:

All cancellations must be in writing and the date of postmark will determine the amount of refund due. Refunds are based on the number of days prior to the departure date. From the time of deposit to 90 days before departure, a \$50 per person administrative fee and any lost airfare deposits will be assessed. From 89-46 days, a \$150 per person penalty plus any nonrefundable deposit to ground suppliers as well as penalties imposed by the airlines will be assessed. From 45-31 days, a \$200 per person penalty plus any nonrefundable deposit to ground suppliers as well as penalties imposed by the airlines will be assessed. From 30-15 days, a \$250 per person penalty plus any nonrefundable deposit to ground suppliers as well as penalties imposed by the airlines will be assessed. Airline tickets once issued are generally not refundable. Anyone canceling less than 15 days prior to departure will receive **no refund**.

Abbreviations for included meals: B = Breakfast L = Lunch D = Dinner

Terms and Conditions

We reserve the right to cancel this trip due to lack of subscription. In the event of cancellation of the trip in its entirety, a full refund of all deposits will be made to passengers—enrolled at the time of cancellation. Tour price is based on the value of the dollar and the cost of airfare and is subject to change without notice. Extensions are usually available, but must be requested when booking the tour. Any changes in airfare booking may result in a processing fee. It may be possible, that due to unforeseen events, conditions, or changes in airline schedules, the land portion of the trip may be extended or shortened. Any savings realized by such occurrences will be refunded, however any extra expenses incurred must be borne by the client. Trip cancellation insurance is available. This low-cost protection can save you money if you are forced to cancel or alter your trip for a medical reason only. You will be mailed trip cancellation insurance information with the brochure or upon receipt of your deposit.

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Peru (GVP14) June 17-27, 2014

Passenger Information (1st Traveler) Full name must be exactly as it appears on your passport or passport application. Passport information may be sent later if you have yet to obtain a passport. First Name: Middle Name(s): Last Name(s): (Nickname): Passport #: Passport Exp. Date: Passport Authority: Date of Birth: Place of Birth: Dietary needs:		Passenger Information (2nd Traveler) Full name must be exactly as it appears on your passport or passport application. Passport information may be sent later if you have yet to obtain a passport. First Name: Middle Name(s): Last Name(s): (Nickname): Passport #: Passport Exp. Date: Passport Authority: Date of Birth: Place of Birth:					
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				Single supplement (additional \$465):	Yes	No)
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Signature of 1 st traveler:			Date:				
Signature of 2 nd traveler:			Data				

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