

2023 Peru and the Highlights of the Inca Empire

June 17-30, 2023

Hosted by Carol Alegre



Every year during the month of June thousands of natives, descendants from the Incas gather on June 24 to celebrate the Inti Raymi or "Festival of the Sun". This magnificent festival starts at the Temple of the Sun. Dressed in full regalia, the native representing the Inca proceeds to the ancient fortress of Sacsayhuaman where the ceremonies take place. The "Inca Emperor" enters the plaza on a golden throne carried on the shoulders of soldiers and guards dressed in colorful costumes. They are followed by his "Queen" and high priests garbed in ceremonial robes. They re-enact the sacrifice of the llama and pray for good crops and blessings on the Inca and his people as they start the New Year. Morris Murdock Escorted Tours has secured tickets and reserved seats to view this colorful festival.

Date	Daily Schedule
06/17 - Sat	Los Angeles to Lima, Peru
06/18 - Sun	Lima
06/19 - Mon	Lima to Puerto Maldonado
06/20 - Tue	Puerto Maldonado
06/21 - Wed	Puerto Maldonado
06/22 - Thu	Puerto Maldonado to Cuzco
06/23 - Fri	Cuzco
06/24 - Sat	Cuzco - Inti Raymi Festival
06/25 - Sun	Cuzco to Machu Picchu
06/26 - Mon	Machu Picchu to Sacred Valley
06/27 - Tue	Sacred Valley to Cuzco
06/28 - Wed	Cuzco to Andahuaylillas & Lake Titicaca
06/29 - Thu	Lake Titicaca & the Floating Islands
06/30 - Fri	Lima to Los Angeles

Price from \$3,299
per person/double occupancy
(13 Days/12 Nights)

Optional Machu Picchu \$98

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QR code for a
full detailed
itinerary!



Day 1: Saturday, June 17, 2023

Los Angeles to Lima, Peru

We depart from Los Angeles to Lima on LATAM Airlines, the premier airline of South America. Our departure is scheduled at 8:30 p.m. We depart from Los Angeles to Lima on LATAM Airlines, the premier airline of South America. **Meals: In-flight**

Day 2: Sunday, June 18, 2023

Lima

Morning arrival in Lima. Transfer to the hotel for breakfast and an early check-in. This afternoon we set out to discover the exciting sites and history of Lima, Peru's capital city. We see Plaza de Armas, the core and center of the city surrounded by the Government Palace, the City Hall and the archbishop's residence. We continue on to Casa Aliaga, the oldest colonial palace in Peru still inhabited by the direct descendants of **Count Aliaga, co-founder of the city** of Lima. It is believed by many to be the oldest in South America. Welcome dinner.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 3: Monday, June 19, 2023

Lima to Puerto Maldonado

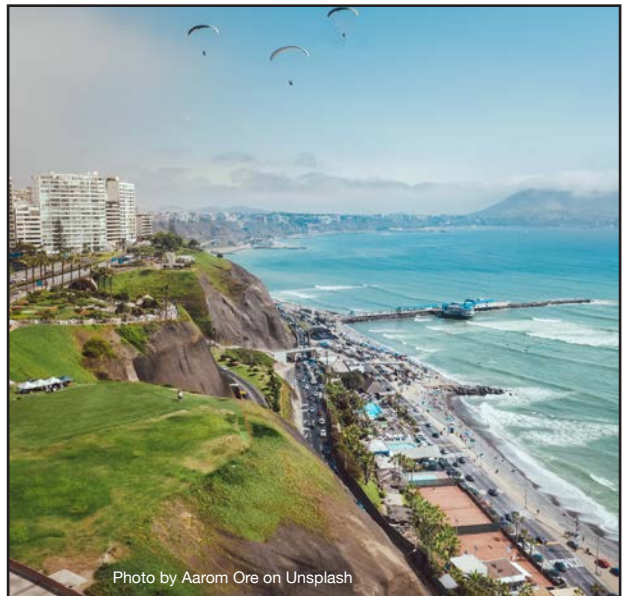
This morning we transfer to the Lima Airport for a short flight to Puerto Maldonado, gateway to the Amazon and Manu National Park Biosphere and rainforest capital of Peru. We travel by boat up the Madre de Dios River to our Eco Amazonia lodge considered one of the best accommodations in the primeval jungle. The diversity of wildlife is due to its location at the confluence of the lowland Amazon forest and three other ecosystems. This area is home to at least 13 endangered animals, including the jaguar, giant otter, ocelot, harpy eagle, and giant armadillo. After dinner we enjoy a night walk with local native guides to observe some of the animals that inhabit the jungle. Overnight in our Amazon jungle lodge. This really is right out of National Geographic! **Meals: Breakfast, Dinner**

Day 4: Tuesday, June 20, 2023

Puerto Maldonado

Our excursion today takes us to a lake where we board our boat and explore the region for wildlife in the water, on land, in the trees, and in the sky; including the elusive Hoatzin, a rare tropical bird found in the mangroves, waters and forests in the Amazon. We also go spotting for caimans, macaws and other endemic species that inhabit the Amazon rainforest. Upon returning from the **Oxbow Lake**, we ascend a canopy tower for a complete overview of the area. Overnight in our Amazon jungle lodge. Talk about spectacular sunsets!

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 5: Wednesday, June 21, 2023

Puerto Maldonado

Today, our adventure will take us to fishing, hiking, short and long hikes to view the best of the headwaters of the Amazon. The narrative is a sample of the activities, which could be changed according to weather condition and the desire of those who can do less or more. All activities are optional. You can choose the one that fits your liking. This is simply a spectacular day.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 6: Thursday, June 22, 2023

Puerto Maldonado to Cuzco

We bid farewell to the Amazon, its flora, fauna, wildlife, and indigenous native people and navigate by boat down the Tambopata River passing indigenous villages and spotting **wildlife along the way and return to the port city of Puerto Maldonado and transfer to the airport for our flight to Cuzco**, the former capital of the Inca Empire, located in the Andes Mountains. Spend the rest of the afternoon at leisure to acclimatize to the altitude. **Meals: Breakfast**

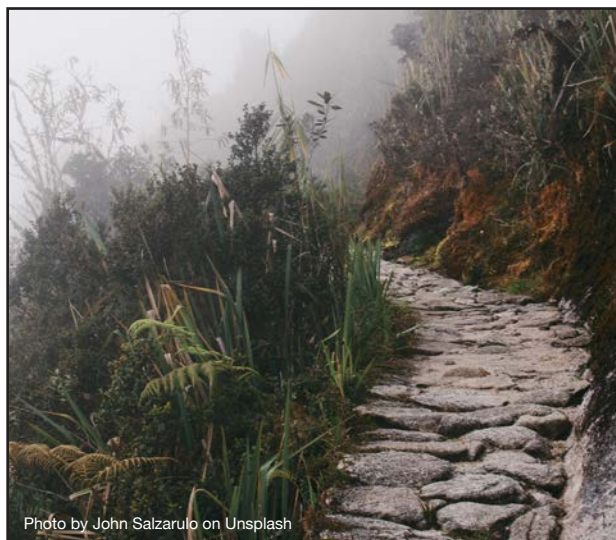


Photo by John Salzarulo on Unsplash

Day 7: Friday, June 23, 2023

Cuzco

This morning our bilingual guide will introduce us the history of the Incas, who made the capital of the Empire, Cuzco. In Quechua the word Cuzco **means, "the navel of the world."** We visit **the Temple of the Sun, where the Incas worshiped. We then visit the 17th century old cathedral, displaying artwork done by the natives. An art piece of great importance** is the large painting of the Last Supper done by a native painter, Marco Zapata, in 1753. We will also visit the Inca Complex, Sacsayhuaman, constructed with huge stones that were transported over great distances. Afternoon at leisure to explore Cuzco at your own pace. **Meals: Breakfast**



Day 8: Saturday, June 24, 2023

Cuzco - Inti Raymi Festival

Shortly after breakfast we transfer to the Koricancha, the Temple of the Sun, where the opening ceremonies start, and the re-enacting of the Inti Raymi begins. The Inti Raymi (Quechua from "sun festival") is a religious ceremony of the Inca Empire in **honor of Inti, God of the sun, and one of the most venerated deities in Inca religion. This is also a celebration to commemorate the winter solstice because in the southern hemisphere, June is a winter month.** The person representing the Inca Emperor addresses the multitude in the Quechua language. After the opening remarks, we walk to the main square for the continuation of the colorful ceremonies. Later our motor coach will take us to Sacsayhuaman, a fortress built on the northern outskirts of the city, where the main ceremonies continue. We return to our hotel after the festival concludes. This is a one-day and one-day only festival, and we are here! Gourmet box lunch from Ciccolina Restaurant included. Overnight in Cuzco.



Photo by Joe Green on Unsplash

NOTE: This evening we will pack a small bag for our train journey to Machu Picchu (on day 9). For all train journeys, each passenger is allowed 1 bag or backpack which must not exceed 5kg/11lbs and/or 157cm/62 inches (length + height + width). Baggage exceeding these measurements is not allowed. We ask that only the absolute necessities are packed.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Day 9: Sunday, June 25, 2023

Cuzco to Machu Picchu

Today we experience the highlight of any journey to Peru: Machu Picchu, the Lost Citadel of the Incas. We take the morning train to Aguas Calientes, a wonderful and exciting village at the base of the Machu Picchu Mountain. Vans are waiting to ferry us to the top of the mountain and Machu Picchu, perched high atop the Andes Mountains. An expert guide will introduce us to the history of the city and its mysterious abandonment. Following the tour and some free time to enjoy the overwhelming majesty of the site. We will enjoy a buffet lunch at Totos House Restaurant. Rest of the day at leisure. **Overnight in Aguas Calientes. Meals: Breakfast, Lunch**

Day 10: Monday, June 26, 2023

Machu Picchu to Sacred Valley

Second entrance to Machu Picchu is included on this day. We will have the chance to re-enter the Citadel of Machu Picchu to explore other areas of the ancient ruins. Free time for lunch and stroll around the quaint village of Aguas Calientes.

At 2:30 pm. we board our train to Ollantaytambo. Upon arrival our driver will take us to our hotel in the Sacred Valley.

Meals: Breakfast

Day 11: Tuesday, June 27, 2023

Sacred Valley to Cuzco

Our visit to the Sacred Valley of **the Incas will** connect us to the glorious past of the Ollantaytambo fortress and is an area packed with Inca sites, colonial towns, and isolated weaving villages. Ollantaytambo, a former Inca administrative center and gateway to the Antisuyo (the Amazon corner of the Inca Empire), sits at the northern end of the Sacred Valley. At the time of the Spanish invasion and conquest of Peru, Ollantaytambo served as the last stronghold for the Inca against the Spanish Conquistador. Lunch at a local restaurant with a show of Peruvian Paso horses. We continue to the quaint village of PISAQ and its famous native market, a **world-renowned** market famous for handmade textiles, articles in gold and silver, handicrafts, and ceramics. **Overnight in Cuzco. Meals: Breakfast, Lunch**



Photo by Adrian Dascal on Unsplash



Photo by Babak Fakhmzadeh on Unsplash



Photo by Adrian Dascal on Unsplash

Day 12: Wednesday, June 28, 2023

Cuzco to Andahuaylillas & Lake Titicaca

Today we will travel by bus through the Valley of Cuzco to the Andean village of Andahuaylillas and visit San Pedro Apóstol of Andahuaylillas church. The Saint Peter Apostol Church is often referred as the “Sistine Chapel of South America”. The chapel’s ceilings and walls are painted in bright colors and the altar is covered in gold, making this little church an architectural jewel and a UNESCO monument. The church dates to 1570. As we continue **our journey**, we explore native villages lost in time where little has changed since colonial days. After visiting Raqchi and the Temple of Wiracocha, we arrive in Puno a town



Photo by Peter Livesey on Unsplash

near Lake Titicaca at the end of the afternoon. **Overnight in Puno.** Today is one of those memorable days so rich in history it’s a step-back-in-time to a world that few ever see due to its remoteness. **Meals: Breakfast, Lunch**

Day 13: Thursday, June 29, 2023

Lake Titicaca & the Floating Islands

After breakfast we journey out for a full-day excursion to the Floating Islands of the Urus natives. Our boat will navigate to the island of Taquile, located in Lake Titicaca and some 30 miles from Puno. We visit several floating islands and have an opportunity to interact with the locals. This is a great shopping day with a wide variety of handicrafts made by the Urus available from the natives. Included in this tour is a sailing to the remote island of Taquile, where you can mingle with the natives, listen to their music and dance with them. A lunch is provided on the island. This afternoon we return to the hotel to pick up our luggage and transfer to the Juliaca Airport for our flight to Lima. Upon arrival we connect to our international flight back to Los Angeles. **Meals: Breakfast, Lunch**

Day 14: Friday, June 30, 2023

Lima to Los Angeles

We arrive in Los Angeles early morning (8:00 a.m.), on time for our connecting flights to final destination.

COVID-19 WAIVER and TERMS: By signing up for any tour I am agreeing to abide by all COVID-19 protocols while on tour as defined by the host country or business, which may include being fully vaccinated with booster, wearing a mask and producing proof of vaccination or negative test for COVID-19 prior to arrival. I understand that if I and/or my party does not follow all set protocols, it is grounds for removal from tour or specific tour activities.

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Tour ID #9223F17 – Tour Manger: Carol Alegre, phone#: 801-483-6165, email: calegre@morrismurdock.com

Your Tour Host:



Carol Alegre has had the opportunity to design unique and unforgettable experiences for her clients for the past 25 years. She is originally from Cochabamba, Bolivia, and moved to the United States her senior year of High School. Carol graduated from Brigham Young University with a Bachelor's degree in Travel & Tourism, and a Masters in Recreation Management & Youth Leadership. She has been fortunate enough to have visited approximately 100 countries around the world, gaining knowledge, respect and appreciation for all cultures. However, she has a deep love for South America because of its diverse cultures, unique landscapes, delicious food

Included:

- 1 tour-bus experience for the whole tour
- 11 Nights Hotel Accommodations in 4/5 star hotels
- Eco Amazonia Lodge All-Inclusive package with optional tours
- Local Hotel Taxes
- Experienced Morris Murdock Group tour manager
- English speaking local guides
- Round trip train ride on the Vistadome to Machu Picchu
- Round trip bus ticket from Aguas Calientes to Machu Picchu
- One way bus from Cuzco to Puno
- Deluxe motor coach transportation
- Sightseeing as outlined on the itinerary
- Entrance fees to all sites including Machu Picchu (2 entrances)
- Round trip transfers hotels to airport
- Tips for guides and drivers
- Digital Travel App
- **Most meals** as indicated on the itinerary (Daily breakfast-8, lunches-4, dinners-4)

Not Included:

- International flights from Los Angeles/Lima/Cuzco/Puerto Maldonado/Cuzco-Juliaca/Lima/Los Angeles - **UA flights from SLC \$1,699**
- Flights within Peru (Lima/Puerto Maldonado/Cusco/Juliaca/Lima) for those booking their own international flights
- Airport transfers for those not arriving with the group
- Meals not included on tour
- Additional hotel nights or sightseeing tours not included
- Travel Insurance
- Items of a personal nature (room service, phone calls, internet, etc.)

Deposit, Payment, & Cancellation Information:

- \$500 per person due at the time of booking
- Final payment is due 17 March, 2023
- \$4,199.00 Single rate (for those with their own room)
- \$100 Cash discount
- This tour is based on 20 passengers traveling together to operate at the advertised price. If enrollment falls under that number an additional supplement may be requested or the tour may be canceled. Any tour

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