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TOURS



'Experiencing the world together'

THE BEST OF PERU



Weaver in Chinchero



Ollantaytambo



Ollantaytambo



Uros Island



Sacsayhuaman

APRIL 25 – MAY 7, 2018

13 DAYS

LIMA/SACRED VALLEY/MACHU PICCHU/CUSCO/PUNO AND LIMA

Shared Adventure Tours Inc.
3461 Van Wie Dr. E.
Baldwinsville NY 13027
www.sharedadventures.com
(315) 439-1135 or (315) 439-7200



Day 1 – Wednesday – April 25 - Departure/Lima

Depart today for Peru. Arrive in Lima, where you will be met. Walk across the street to your hotel for overnight.

Day 2 - Thursday – April 26 - Lima/Cusco/Sacred Valley

This morning walk back across the street to the airport for your flight to Cusco.

Welcome to Cusco. Meet with your guide and host. Drive to the Sacred Valley.

Visit the Chinchero village, with an altitude 12,375 feet above sea level, famous for the extraordinary beauty and quality of its textiles. We will walk along its traditional alleyways, and visit the Nilda Callañaupa's Weavers' Workshop. Twenty-eight years ago Nilda decided to bring together like-minded women who shared her passion for weaving, and in time was able to motivate younger women who had lost interest in weaving to learn from their elders and connect once more with this ancestral art. She began working in the yard of her own house in Chinchero, and in 1996 her project became the Center for Traditional Textiles of Cusco, a strong organization dedicated not only to the preservation, but also the commercialization of beautiful, high quality textiles. This visit will be greatly enriched with the explanation of the protagonist of this story, Nilda Callañaupa.

The journey will continue to the archaeological site of Moray. Used as an agricultural testing ground, the site's system of circular terraces descends 490 feet (150m) from where we will stand, serving as a perfect testament to the level of advancement achieved by the Incas, who excelled at building masterful constructions in harmony with nature.

Enjoy lunch in Chinchero, and then meet with a local Shaman for a Tribute to Mother Earth ceremony.

The day ends at your hotel the beautiful Sol y Luna. **(B, L, D)**

Day 3 – Friday – April 27 - The Sacred Valley

Get ready for another day of exploration of the Sacred Valley.

Visit Pisac, a beautiful place where Incan and Colonial influences have reached a perfect balance and created the unique way of life of the local inhabitants. You will get a chance to explore this quaint town,

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famous for its artisan markets where you can find extraordinarily fine jewelry and ceramic and textile craftwork.

Afterwards, you will visit one of the last remaining Incan towns, Ollantaytambo, which was once fiercely guarded by a massive fortress. Discover the large archeological complex of what used to serve as a wayside inn for royal delegations on long journeys. Surviving structures here include multiple walls and towers that were used to protect the citadel from possible invasions.

By now you have worked up an appetite for lunch. Continue to Hacienda Huayocari where you will have a buffet lunch.

The Hacienda houses a vast collection of folk art, with pieces dating back to the seventeenth century. Colonial paintings, ceremonial goblets known as keros, pottery, porcelain, and Huamanga stone relics are just part of what you will discover during your visit. A blend of Spanish traditions with indigenous customs inherited since the dawn of time, this plantation manor is a perfect spot to sample life in the country, learn about typical locally harvested products and admire the colorful flora. This visit culminates with a superb meal prepared with fresh produce of the plantation. The current inhabitants of the house, the Lambarri-Orihuela family, will be your hosts.

Return to the hotel where you have some time to enjoy the hotels spa, visit the horses, and relax in the garden and other amenities. **(B, L, D)**

Day 4 – Saturday – April 28 - Sacred Valley /Visit To The Community Of Cuyuni

Today you will step back into time to visit the Cuyuni. The Ausangate Mountains stands majestically before our eyes. We are 13,780 feet above sea level in the community of Cuyuni one of the few traditional Andean communities left in Peru.

During this visit we will take part in the day-to-day lives of Cuyuni's inhabitants as they go about their chores and work. A front row view of. Just walking around Ausangate (Apu or Mountain) will constitute an incomparable adventure. The area's sunsets and persistent snowfall will be nothing less than breathtaking. You will accompany Cuyuni's inhabitants in their main agricultural activity: potato harvesting. Time stands still in Cuyuni, providing an unparalleled opportunity to feel at peace with nature. Lunch is included in the community.

Return to your hotel for overnight. **(B, L, D)**

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Day 5 – Sunday - April 29 - Sacred Valley/ Machu Picchu

Board the Vistadome train from Ollantaytambo and journey through beautiful countryside to Aguas Calientes town.

Walk through the quaint town to the bus that will take you up to the mystical and awe-inspiring Machu Picchu. Rediscovered by Hiram Bingham more than a century ago, Machu Picchu is considered one of the Seven Wonders of the World. Its architectural beauty, spectacular natural landscapes and the energy held in its enigmatic structures will take your breath away. Follow in the footsteps of the ancient Incans as you explore this magical citadel along with the tour guide.

Your hotel for the next two nights is the Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel. The hotel occupies a private five-hectare (12-acre) mountainside reserve, located at the foot of Machu Picchu Mountain, near the Machu Picchu Pueblo railroad station. With the look and feel of a rustic Andean Village, this welcoming retreat offers travellers an authentic travel experience, in an atmosphere of refinement and thoughtful hospitality. The spectacular grounds are laced with paths that wind past waterfalls and gardens; trails wander through wild forest. This is a place to relax, while exploring nature and encountering the wonders of the Inca civilization, feeling an authentic travel in an atmosphere of refinement, caring, and warm hospitality. **(B, L, D)**

Day – 6 – Monday – April 30 - Machu Picchu

Today is at your leisure or you may opt to re-visit Machu Picchu to further explore this amazing citadel (entrance ticket is included). You might go to the Inca Bridge, built by the Incas as a secret entrance to Machu Picchu for the Inca army. Or you might hike up to the Inti Punku (Quechua for sun door), believed to be the control gate for those who enter and exited the Machu Picchu Sanctuary. If you enjoy hiking you may join the hike to Huayna Picchu (additional cost).

Enjoy sometime exploring the town or join optional tours that the hotel has to offer including bird watching, visiting the Brown Bears, and many more activities.

Dinner this evening will be at your hotel. **(B, L, D)**

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Day 7- Tuesday – May 1 - Machu Picchu/Cusco

After lunch board the Vistadome train to Ollantaytambo train station.

Later today arrive in the fascinating city of Cusco. Known as the Center of the Inca Empire, Cusco has some magnificent temples, beautiful landscapes, and an old world European charm. The people of Cusco are friendly and hospitable.

The city is a maze of streets, alleyways and there is always a parade in the main square.

This evening enjoy a private dinner at the Museo de Arte Precolombino (Museum of Pre-Colombian Art). This museum is located in Casa Cabrera (Cabrera House) and dedicated to point out the art of ancient cultures of Peru. **(B, D)**

Day 8 - Wednesday – May 2 - Cusco/Puno/Lake Titicaca

A short city orientation tour and then you will visit the ancient site of Sacsayhuaman. Built in the 15th century during Pachacutec and Tupac Yupanqui's ruling its construction lasted over a decade. It is said that more than 30,000 men built the giant superposed walls, which are 600 m long and reach a height of 24 m. The stones on the lowest level are the biggest and the wall is nine meters high. The walls on the other two levels are made of smaller stones. With strenuous work were the enormous perfectly fitting granite blocks chiseled and smoothed, and like in other Inca walls, they were put together without the use of mortar. Against the sky stands this magnificent granite structure.

Return to the hotel to pick-up your luggage and drive to the airport for a flight to Juliaca.

You will be welcomed and driven to Titilaka lodge. On the way, you will pass through the city of Juliaca and the port of Puno.

On arrival at the lodge, check-in, rest, and enjoy the scenery. Based on the local cuisine, lunch is served from 12:30 pm to 3:00 pm. We recommend an afternoon nap and drinking plenty of liquids to help you acclimate. Enjoy teatime at 3:00 pm, followed by activities near the lodge in the afternoon. Explore the lake and paddle through nearby totora reeds as you choose from a selection of nautical activities, including canoeing, kayaking, and sailing, paddle-boarding. Or, if you prefer, ride a bike through the fields of the

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district of silverware, take a walk on country paths, or watch local birds and drink in Puno striking landscapes.

Evening cocktails are served from 6:30 pm, followed by dinner from 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm. **(B, L, D)**

Day 9 – Thursday – May 3 - Lake Titicaca

Meet with your guide who transfers you by car and boat to visit the famed Uros floating islands, near the Titicaca National Reserve. Here you will meet one of the traditional families that Architecture these unique islands. The Uro-Aymara people are a proud culture, where the men skillfully traverse the lake with rafts made from reeds, and the women are expert weavers. Calling themselves kot-suna or, "people of the lake", the Uro-Aymara were once persecuted by other groups and forced to relocate to Lake Titicaca, where they found refuge by creating the islands out of totora reeds. Considering themselves guardians of Titicaca.

You will then explore Quechua beliefs and culture.

The hotel offers many optional activities such as Kayak, Rowing on the Reeds, Nature Walks, visit the Weaving Community of Copamaya, or take a nature boat excursión. **(B, L, D)**

Day 10 – Friday – May 4 - Lake Titicaca

Your exploration continues today with a full day planned to see the landscapes, wildlife, villages, and privileged views of the Chucuito peninsula and community of Ácora.

Travel back in time to pre-Inca times and learn about Titicaca 's central role in the Andean way of life and the intimate relationship between man and nature here that survives to this day.

By car, bicycle, or foot, set your own pace through curving country paths as they cross open farmland. From natural lookouts, drink in inspiring views of Lake Titicaca. Keep an eye out for native birds, archaeological remains and locals going about their daily chores.

Lunch will be a picnic while enjoying open vistas of Lake Titicaca.

Return to the hotel later today. **(B, L, D)**

Day 11 – Saturday May 5 - Lake Titicaca /Lima

Happy Cinco de Mayo!

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The morning will be at your leisure to enjoy the hotels amenities.

Drive to the airport and visit the mysterious, ancient site of Sillustani, home to the area's best preserved chullpas, or funerary towers. Once a burial ground for the Pucara, Tiahuanaco, and Ccolla pre-Inca cultures, and then the Incas themselves, Sillustani's chullpas offer an ideal opportunity to compare the contrasting pre-Columbian architectural styles. Symbolizing life and birth, these ancient tombs were used for chiefs and other dignitaries. Made of stones weighing up to six tons, the biggest tower took around 50 years to complete. Offering archaeology and history, in a stunning natural setting,

Arrive in Lima for overnight. **(B)**

Day 12 – Sunday – May 6 - Lima/Departure

After breakfast at the hotel your exploration of Lima begins. Drive down the city's main avenues, boulevards, and squares. The tour will begin with an exploration of Colonial Lima. First, we will stop off at the Main Square, to admire the exteriors of the Government Palace, the Cathedral of Lima, and the City Hall, all examples of Lima's still-present colonial architectural opulence.

Our tour continues with the visit to San Francisco Convent built in the 17th century, and its "Catacombs" ancient underground cemetery of Lima.

Afterwards, we will head to the Pueblo Libre District and visit the Larco Museum, an eighteenth-century Viceregal mansion that houses more than 3,000 years of Peru's pre-Columbian history. The museum boasts a supremely fine collection of gold and silver jewelry and worship paraphernalia that demonstrates the superb skill of ancient Peruvian gold and silversmiths.

This afternoon you will have some free time to explore Lima on your own. A dayroom will be secured for you.

Early this evening you will have a final dinner at the beautiful Huaca Pucllana Restaurant that sits on ancient ruins. Time permitting you may have a tour of the ruins.

Farewell to Peru as you transfer to the airport for your return flight to the United States. **(B, D)**

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Day 13 – Monday – May 7 - Arrive Home

Arrive back home your minds and hearts filled with many happy memories of ancient and modern day Peru.

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