



Mariposa Tours
presents
Peru Trip Itinerary
December 22, 2009 – January 3, 2010
Only \$1,650 + Airfare

Days 1 & 2

Fly to Lima and then on to Cuzco. We'll check into the hostel and then after lunch, go to the Plaza de Armas, or City Center. We'll take the Cuzco city tour in the early afternoon and then explore this ancient Incan capital on our own.

Day 3

After breakfast, we'll bus to enjoy the Chinchero traditional Sunday market, where vendors come from neighboring villages to sell their food and arts and crafts. We'll continue in the afternoon to venture into the Urubamba Valley and eat lunch there. Next, we'll go to the Fortress of Ollantaytambo and spend the afternoon admiring the incredible Inca ingenuity and stone work. We'll take the train to Machu Picchu Village, eat dinner & spend the night there so we can get an early start to maximize our visit to Machu Picchu!

Day 4

Take the early bus to **Machu Picchu to watch the sunrise!** Spend all day at Machu Picchu. The 1st part will be with a guide and then on your own in small groups. Hike (not too strenuous) to see the Inca Bridge. Hike (strenuous) Huayna Picchu with parent permission. Take lots of pictures. Sit on a terrace or in an ancient building, eat lunch and gaze at the amazing sights. Take bus back to Aguas Calientes in time for return train to Ollantaytambo. We'll eat dinner there and then continue on a bus to Cuzco, where we'll return to the hostel there.

Day 5

We'll continue our guided tour of Cuzco and its surrounding sites in the morning. After lunch, you'll have the whole afternoon to explore this delightful ancient Incan capital city on your own in groups of two or more.

Day 6

This is an early day to begin our bus trip to Puno on the shore of Lake Titicaca. The lake is the highest navigable lake in the world at 11,463' and legends say that the first Inca rose from its depths and went out to found the Inca Empire. We'll visit interesting sites along the way such as the church at Andahuaylilas built in 1580, the Raqchi archaeological site, La Raya which at 14,222' is the highest point of the trip, and Pukara where we'll visit the oldest and most important ceremonial center of the Incan Highlands. We'll arrive in Puno by early evening. Check into your hotel, eat dinner, and spend the rest of the evening walking/shopping and enjoying the New Year's Eve celebrations!

Day 7

A day you'll never forget at Lake Titicaca! We'll eat breakfast in Puno, and then board a boat and motor to the Uros Floating Islands. You'll see how the people lived in pre-Incan times on islands made from reeds. Continue to the island of Taquile where you'll walk up 355 stone steps to get to the village. Enjoy a delicious fresh veggie and fish lunch and watch the men and women knit and weave continuing their ancestors' traditions. We'll return to Puno to spend the evening exploring this small pueblo.



Mariposa Tours
presents
Peru Trip Itinerary
December 22, 2009 – January 3, 2010
Only \$1,650 + Airfare

Day 8

After breakfast in Puno, we'll take the bus to Arequipa. We'll arrive early in the afternoon and be greeted by your Peruvian "hermanos" for a yummy lunch and then you'll go home with your family for a few hours. We'll meet at the Plaza de Armas for a city tour of Arequipa led by your host teens. You'll want to save some energy for the lively traditional dancing at a typical "*peña*" in the evening.

Day 9

We'll meet as a group to visit el Monasterio Santa Catalina, a convent built in 1570 and still occupied by about 30 nuns. Besides the interesting buildings, and their history, you'll enjoy the recently uncovered and restored *frescos*. We will also see the world famous mummy, Juanita, also known as The Ice Maiden at the Museo Santuarios de La Altura. The rest of the afternoon will be free for you to wander about town with your "*hermano/a*".

Day 10

Family Day! This is the day you will spend with your host family! The schedule will be up to them! This day may just be the highlight of your entire trip!

Day 11

Today we will join your "*hermanos*" for a special work project at a needy public elementary school. Besides the work segment, you will get to play with the young students and also give them the basic school supplies and clothing that you'll bring with you as gifts. We'll have a *Fiesta de Despedida (Farewell Party)* at an early almuerzo (lunch) that features a traditional meal while being entertained with folkloric songs and dances. You'll want to pack your things tonight so that you have mañana, your last day in Peru, to play and enjoy.

Day 12

Free morning in Arequipa to visit your favorite sites with your host family and/or hermanos. This will allow you to arrive at the airport by 4:30 for your return trip to Lima. Return to USA leaving Lima at 11:40p.m. midnight

Day 13

Return to your U.S. base city.

Please Note: As this is still several months prior to the departure date, some details may change for various reasons.

Pricing is based on a minimum of 20 participants and is subject to change.