

PERU'S SACRED PLACES OF POWER

CULTURAL TOUR & PILGRIMAGE

AUGUST 2014

ITINERARY

PRE-TOUR: "ANDES PILGRIMAGE"

lima - huaraz - callejon de huaylas - chavin de huantar
AUGUST 13 - AUGUST 17

Day 12

August 13 (Wed)

LIMA

Meals included: Breakfast

Full day at leisure. Accommodations at ESTELAR HOTEL (Standard room) located in the Miraflores district.

Note: The Main Tour will be returning from Cuzco this morning and participating in activities in and around Lima. If you are interested in these activities, please contact us.

Day 13

August 14 (Thurs)

LIMA – HUARAZ – CALLEJÓN DE HUAYLAS

Meals included: Breakfast and lunch.

After breakfast transportation service will take you to Lima's airport for your flight to Huaraz.

Flight LC 1361 (arrival 09:15am / departure 10:30 am)

Transportation service with a guide will pick you up from the airport at the established time and will transfer you to ANDINO CLUB HOTEL (Superior room).

This afternoon, we drive along the magnificent Callejón de Huaylas Valley watered by the Santa



River and located between the Cordillera Blanca and the Cordillera Negra mountain ranges of the mighty Andes. On the way, you visit the picturesque towns of Carhuaz – which offers colorful Indian markets –, Mancos and Yungay – where in 1970 an avalanche from Huascaran peak destroyed the city. After the visit to the memorial site of Yungay, we will have lunch, and continue to Caraz, a typical Andean town, enjoying the wonderful scenery, taking photographs as we return to Huaraz.

Day 14

August 15 (Fri)

HUARAZ – CALLEJÓN DE HUAYLAS – CHAVÍN DE HUANTAR

Meals included: Breakfast. Lunch.

We drive along the southern Callejón de Huaylas Valley across the picturesque towns of Recuay, Ticapampa and Catac, arriving at Querochoa Lake (3,980 meters above sea level), surrounded by native *quenual* trees. We traverse the Cordillera Blanca to visit Chavín de Huántar (BC 1300 to 4000), one of South America's oldest and most advanced cultures, and one of the six independent centers of civilization in world prehistory, predating the Incas by about 2000 years.



Chavín's monumental granite pyramids and ceremonial plazas are linked by colossal carved stone staircases and platforms. Subterranean chamber complexes, known as galleries, are built in a most sophisticated architectural engineering style. In the Old Temple we visit the Lanzón Gallery with its supreme deity of Chavín, a large stone idol of 4.5 meters carved with human, jaguar, anaconda, and Harpy Eagle iconography. The New Temple, (The Castillo) is built in three platforms, built between BC 500 and 200, is a high structure that is honey-combed with water courses and is also based on a gallery and plaza design containing many relief sculptures. The sophisticated carved keystone heads, horizontal and vertical ventilation wells, friezes, cylindrical columns, and astronomic representations are a puzzle for Andean archaeo-astronomers.

The walls of Chavín were decorated with carved heads, set deep into stone. Some of the carved heads have mucus pouring from the nose, something that happens when hallucinogenic snuff is snorted. Rare Ecuadorian shells are often found in tombs of the Chavín era, as the precious lapis lazuli from Atacama desert in Chile. Chavín de Huántar has been designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Lunch. In the afternoon we will visit the museum, where we will appreciate Chavín ceramics and lithic sculptures like the famous “Tello Obelisk”. Return to Huaraz.

Overnight at * ANDINO CLUB HOTEL (Superior room).

Day 15

August 16 (Sat)

HUARAZ – CALLEJÓN DE HUAYLAS – LIMA

Meals included: Breakfast. Lunch.

This morning we driving along the magnificent Callejón de Huaylas Valley. Turning east the mountain scenery becomes increasingly spectacular as you ascend the slopes of the Cordillera Blanca. Exacting peaks such as Huascarán (6,768 meters above sea level) and Huandoy (6,395 meters above sea level) form the granite walls of this U-shaped glacial-eroded canyon with its two turquoise Llanganuco lakes.

We are in the heart of Huascarán Biosphere Reserve. This is a giant natural history laboratory where you learn about high tropical Andes species and ecosystems. We take a short hike along the Chinacocha (3,850 masl) path appreciating the high altitude Andean ecosystem. Forests of silk-paper-barked *Queñua* and *Quishuar* trees cover the canyon floor. Colorful bromeliads, orchids and cactus, among other plant species, grace the granite boulders and cliffs. After this, we visit



Orcococha lake and Cebollapampa balcony, where we enjoying a spectacular view of the most important mountains of the Cordillera Blanca, such as Huandoy, Pisco (5,752 masl), Chacaraju (6,112 masl), Yanapaccha (5,460 masl), Chopicallqui (6,354 masl) and Huascaran. After enjoying the wonderful scenery and taking photographs, we descend to Yungay. Lunch.

We return to Huaraz where you will have accommodations confirmed at ANDINO CLUB HOTEL (Superior room) for the rest of the day.

Transportation service will pick you up from your hotel and will transfer you to the bus station.

Bus to Lima (Departure 22:00 pm / Arrival 06:00 next morning).

Day 16

August 17 (Sat)

LIMA

Meals included: Breakfast.

Transportation with a representative of Lima Tours will pick you up from the bus station at the established time and will transfer you to ESTELAR MIRAFLORES HOTEL (Standard room). The representative will assist you with your immediate check-in. Breakfast is included.

Later this morning, your tour will start en route to Pachacamac. This archaeological complex, built in 200 AD, is one of the most important pre-Inca religious centers on the Peruvian coast. It



originally belonged to the Ichma culture (although it was mostly built by the Wari people and subsequently conquered by the Incas). It was a sanctuary devoted to Pachacamac, the god who created the world, built on a hill in front of the Pacific Ocean. The religious center,

which houses several temples, operated for centuries until the arrival of the Spaniards, when the fall of the Inca Empire began.

You will enjoy lunch at a local hacienda which offers a spectacular Peruvian Paso Horse show.

After lunch, return to your hotel. Check out time at the hotel is at noon. Bags may be kept in hotel storage. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure in Lima.

Transportation service will pick you up from your hotel at the established time and will transfer you to the airport of Lima for your departure.

* END OF POST-TOUR *

* END OF SERVICES *

NOT INCLUDED:

- Airport taxes (payable only in cash):
- Personal expenses such as laundry, phone call, internet access.
- Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages during meals.
- Some meals (as indicated).
- Tips for guides and drivers.
- Any services not mentioned in the program.
- Travel Insurance.