



Single Parent Travel

...creating memories since 1993.

Itinerary prepared for: Single Parent Tours

Traveling to: Peru

Dates: July 20 - 27, 2013

Your consultant: Brenda Elwell Gottschalk, CTC
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Tours)
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Please note:

- Visas are not required for U. S. citizens for Peru. You must have a passport valid for at least 6 months from date of arrival. We also strongly recommend a letter of permission from the absentee parent allowing you to take your child out of the country. Forms available upon request.
- Hotel check in times are typically mid-afternoon and check out is typically mid morning (exact times vary).
- Please read important Peru Fact Sheet below Terms & Conditions which provides answers to many of your questions.

July 20

**Arrive Lima
Flight to Cusco**

Welcome to Peru! You will arrive in Lima in the early morning after an overnight flight. After clearing customs and collecting your luggage, you are met by a representative of Maxim Tours who will be holding a paging board with your name. Our representative will assist you with check in and boarding passes for your scenic one hour flight to Cusco. We will try to secure seats in advance for this group, on the port (left) side of the plane for best viewing.

For those of you who will arrive Lima the evening of July 19, we can provide overnight accommodations at the Ramada Costa del Sol adjacent to the airline terminal. Please advise if you need this overnight hotel reservation.

**Transfer to Sacred Valley
Maras Salt pans & Moray Ruins Tour
(Full Day)**

After collecting your luggage at Cusco Airport, you are met by your private guide, who will be holding a paging board with your name. You will depart for the Sacred Valley, a picturesque one hour drive. This fertile valley of the Urubamba River was once used by the Inca nobility for their country homes.

Head to the ruins of Moray, passing the impressive snowcapped Vilcanota Mountains on the way. These ancient agricultural terraces are circular, concentric shapes, built by the Inkas as a seed producing area for their principal crops: maize and potatoes. You will hike through the countryside toward the town of Maras, now surrounded by farmland. In Maras, you may visit a local pub – Chicheria – where they brew the famous corn beer. You will rest here and have lunch.

Continue on toward the salt pans on the trail used by the locals to move their cattle, and to transport the salt from the pans to Maras by donkey. Your guide will explain how the salt draining process works. Descend into the Sacred Valley on a narrow path alongside a gorge, down to the Urubamba River. You may spot Andean gulls, hummingbirds, and caracara. Cross the Urubamba River on a hanging bridge, and you will be taken to your hotel.

This evening enjoy a welcome/get together BBQ dinner around the bonfire at your hotel (includes 2 beverages – beer or soda).

Includes: Private guide & vehicle, standard entrance fees & lunch & BBQ welcome dinner



July 20 – 22 (2 nights)

Sacred Valley

In the heart of the Sacred Valley you find the Sonesta Posada del Inca Yucay, a former ancient monastery that maintains its colonial style of the 18th century, surrounded by beautiful gardens. An indoor/outdoor dining area faces the beautiful colonial chapel on the grounds.

You stay at Sonesta Posada del Inca Yucay (standard room)

Includes: Breakfast



July 21

Pisac Market & Ollantaytambo Ruins (Full Day)

Today you are taken on a full day excursion to the Sacred Valley. Visit the lively Pisac market, which completely takes over the town on Sundays. You'll find handicrafts of all qualities along with plenty of opportunities to photograph the local people with their pet llamas, but you'll also find today's residents bartering potatoes, herbal remedies, or kitchen utensils, and trading gossip.

Stop for a delicious lunch at Wayra Ranch, followed by a Paso Horse Show. After the show there will be an opportunity for a short horseback ride.

Then continue on to explore the magnificent ruins of Ollantaytambo.

Includes: Private guide & vehicle, lunch & standard entrance fees



July 22

Vistadome Train to Machu Picchu

You'll be picked up at your hotel and transferred by private vehicle to the train station. You'll be riding on the Vistadome train to Machu Picchu. Your guide accompanies you on the train and will assist with boarding formalities and will be able to answer any questions you may have. Carriages have beautiful panoramic windows offering enhanced scenic views and photographic opportunities.

Machu Picchu is reached by a 90 minute train ride from Ollanta Station in the Sacred Valley through the spectacular scenery of the Urubamba Valley. High on jungle-covered hilltops in the midst of the cloud forest, Machu Picchu was not known to the Spanish Conquerors, so much of the ancient city remains – temples, palaces, and astronomical observatories of intricate stonework. Surrounded by verdant landscapes and misty mountain peaks you'll surely speculate about the true origins of this unique site.

Due to space limitations, you should take only one overnight bag with you to Machu Picchu. When leaving the Sacred Valley, please ask your guide to have the luggage transferred for you to Cusco.

On arrival at the train station, you'll see personnel from the various hotels standing outside the train. They will transfer your luggage to your hotel while you proceed with your tour. Look for a sign with your hotel name on it. Your guide then accompanies you on the shuttle bus up the mountain where you will have a private guided visit to the ruins. After the tour of the ruins, you enjoy lunch at the Sanctuary Lodge located at the entrance to the ruins. At this time, your guide leaves you and you are able to return to the ruins after lunch at no additional cost or you may take the bus down the mountain at a time of your choosing. If you do decide to stay longer, consider the 15 minute hike up to Watchman's Tower to take the famous photo looking down and over the ruins. The last bus leaves around 6:00pm. The driver will stop the bus at the entrance to your hotel or nearby, depending upon your hotel location. Just mention the name of the hotel to the driver when you board the bus. You can walk to the Sumaq Hotel across the street.



July 22 – 23 (1 night)

Machu Picchu

The 60 room Sumaq is a 4 star hotel, located near the arrival train station in the village of Machu Picchu. It offers breathtaking views of the surrounding mountains. The property has an Andean health spa with sauna, massage, steam rooms, Thai massage, and Jacuzzi.

Please note that the Sumaq Hotel offers a free 40 minute cooking class to its guests. For those interested in this class, please advise so we can confirm it in advance.

You stay at the Sumaq Hotel (superior deluxe room)

Includes: Breakfast & dinner



July 23

Vistadome Train to Cusco

Check-out is 9:00am. You will give your bag to the hotel reception for safe keeping and can use the hotel facilities until departure. The hotel porters will transfer your bags to the train station this afternoon.

This morning you are met at the hotel by your private guide for a vigorous hike up Huayna Picchu (the sugar loaf). The hike takes about 1 hour to 1 ½ hours each way.

Please note that the number of hikers is limited to 400 per day and the +-2 hour hike begins at 2 set times - 7:00am & 10:00am (exact times cannot be guaranteed until booked and paid for).

For those of you who prefer not to do the Huayna Picchu hike or who prefer to be at leisure this morning, please advise and we shall make alternate arrangements.

Afterward you may choose to spend the rest of your time exploring the bustling town of Machu Picchu with its many cafes, shopping stalls and art galleries.

Late in the afternoon, you will walk to the train station in time to board your afternoon Vistadome train for the three hour return journey to Cusco (departure time to be advised locally - your guide will have given you boarding time instructions). Pick up your bag from the fenced-in area before boarding your train. Please arrive at the station 30 minutes prior to departure. **Please note that baggage is limited to 11lbs per person aboard the train.**

You will be met at the Cusco Poroy train station and transferred to your hotel by shuttle bus.

Cusco was the most important city of the Incas. Mighty rulers of the 15th century, they excelled in architecture, engineering, agriculture, and administering an empire that extended from modern Colombia to the middle of Chile. Their most important gift to us is mysterious and strikingly beautiful Machu Picchu.

July 23 – 25 (2 nights)

Cusco

Built on a 16th century mansion, Aranwa Cusco Boutique Hotel offers luxury touches in a boutique hotel atmosphere. Located 2 blocks from Cusco's main square, the hotel has 43 rooms, each with complimentary oxygen enrichment system and whirlpool tubs. All rooms are individually decorated with local artwork. Other services include WiFi, Ipod dock, concierge, mini bar, room service and business center.

You stay at Aranwa Cusco Boutique Hotel (classic w/ oxygen)

Includes: Breakfast



July 24

**Cusco Tour with 4 Ruins
(Private / Half Day)**

This afternoon, you'll have a tour of Cusco, the oldest continuously inhabited city in the western hemisphere! The tour includes important landmarks of Cusco and the nearby ruins of Kenko, Pucapucara, Tampumachay, as well as the Sacsayhuaman fortress. Once the center of the Inca civilization, modern Cusco is a delightful combination of Inca and colonial architecture. During the tour, you will visit Cusco's cathedral, Santo Domingo Church, and the Plaza de Armas. Afterward, you are dropped off at your hotel.

Includes: Private guide & vehicle & standard entrance fees



July 25

Flight Cusco to Juliaca

You are picked up from your hotel and transferred by private vehicle to the airport for your afternoon short flight to Juliaca.

Arrive Juliaca

After collecting your luggage, you are met by a representative of Maxim Tours and transferred to your hotel, about a 45 minute drive. Your driver will be holding a paging board with your name.

High altitude and crystal clear air make Lake Titicaca stunningly beautiful. Home to Aymará and Quechua Indians, this region is rich in spectacular landscapes, wildlife, and archeological remains as well as folklore and legends. The Uros Indians still live on floating reed islands. Taquile Island is renowned for its hand weaving techniques and its people's communal culture which has served them well in the transition to modern times. The archeological site of the Sillustani Chullpas (funerary monuments) is one of the largest necropolises in the Americas.

July 25 – 27 (2 nights)

Lake Titicaca

On the shores of Lake Titicaca, Sonesta Posadas del Inca Puno is a haven for warm and traditional Peruvian hospitality. From its guest rooms, restaurant and bar, the Posada offers panoramic views of the world's highest navigable lake, surrounded by snow-capped mountain peaks. Only 3 miles from Puno's Main Square, the Posada on Lake Titicaca offers easy access to all tourist activities and attractions. A visit to the fascinating floating reed islands of the Uros people and Taquile Island is a must.

You stay at the Sonesta del Inca Puno Hotel (standard room)

Includes: Breakfast



July 26

**Uros & Taquile Islands Tour
(Full Day / Private)**

Enjoy a full day excursion to the Uros Floating Islands and Taquile Island. You'll be transferred to the dock for your motor launch trip. Although there are 46 floating islands (built on woven totora reeds) only two are located conveniently for the tourist circuit. The residents will welcome you with opportunities to buy their handicrafts. Continue by boat for a three-hour ride to Taquile Island. The island's agricultural fields and simple dwellings contrast with the clear azure of Lake Titicaca in strikingly beautiful landscapes. The island's inhabitants seem to have comfortably resolved many of the conflicts between their traditions and the 20th century. You'll hike up to the center or one of the villages, enjoy a local lunch, and return to Puno by boat later this afternoon.

Includes: Private guide & vehicle, lunch and standard entrance fees



July 26

Flight Juliaca to Lima

This morning you are picked up from your hotel and transferred by private vehicle to the Juliaca airport.

Peru is said to be a country of contrasts and Lima encapsulates many of them. Called the "City of the Kings" by the 16th C Spanish conquistadors, today's Lima combines traces of pre-Inca and Inca civilizations with colonial architecture and modern commercial and residential neighborhoods. Lima is home to some of the best museums of South America and beautiful churches and convents that are reminders of Peru's rich religious and colonial past. Underrated as a tourist destination, Lima has excellent restaurants, good music, great neighborhoods for walking, and is also home to the famous Peruvian Paso horses.

Lima City Tour & Gold Museum (Half Day)

Upon arrival at Lima Airport, you are greeted by your driver who will take you to meet your guide for a city and museum tour of Lima. Enjoy Lima's historical heart, filled with beautiful colonial buildings and churches. Visit the Plaza Mayor, dominated by the rich ochre hues of the Cathedral and the Government Palace. San Francisco Monastery is beautiful in its own right with an interior with Moorish features and with interesting underground catacombs. San Martín Plaza is quite photogenic with its terra cotta-colored buildings.

From there you will visit the incredibly rich Gold Museum, containing thousands of gold pieces and other precious gems. Housed in the same building is the Arms Museum, reputed to be one of the world's best. Even if you have no interest in guns, you are likely to be fascinated by the thousands of ancient and bizarre firearms on display here from all over the world. Outside the historical center you'll see the upscale residential areas of Miraflores and San Isidro, including a stop overlooking the coastline.

You will be dropped at the seaside Rosa Nautica restaurant for a farewell dinner before being picked up and transferred to the airport in time for your flight home. Please note that transfers are driver only. Your private guide will join you only for the city tour.

Your luggage will be kept safe by the driver while you enjoy your touring and dinner in Lima.

Includes: Private guide & vehicle, standard entrance fees & dinner



PRICING:

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Land Cost for two (Parent plus child under 12) * * | \$4660.00 |
| Land Cost for two (Parent plus child over 12) | \$4998.00 |

** Child must be under 12 at time of travel.

Pricing for triple rooms, or other variation, available upon request.

Pricing is based on 3 families or more signing up for this trip.

If the trip falls short of 3 families, remaining families have the option to cancel out with full refund of deposit less \$20.00 processing fee per person or to take the tour as a private tour with a slightly higher cost.

| What's Included | What's Excluded |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All accommodation as indicated in the itinerary including hotel taxes.• All transfers as indicated in the itinerary. All transfers are private for the SPT group unless otherwise indicated.• All meals as indicated in the itinerary. Included is breakfast daily, 4 lunches & 3 dinners.• All tours as indicated in the itinerary. All tours are private for the SPT group, unless otherwise indicated. Standard entrance fees included.• Roundtrip Vistadome train fare to Machu Picchu• 2 day entrance fee to the ruins of Machu Picchu including second day guide with Huayna Picchu hike• 24/7 local assistance in Peru | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• International and domestic scheduled flights.• Gratuities• Optional activities offered by lodges and payable directly• Travel Insurance• Soft drinks and alcoholic beverages unless specified in the itinerary• Meals not specified in the itinerary• Items of a personal nature• Laundry unless specified in the itinerary• Airport departure taxes• Any items or services not specified in the itinerary |

Domestic luggage weight restrictions in Peru

Subject to change

| | |
|------|---------------------------------------|
| Peru | Lan Peru: 50 lbs plus 17 lbs carry-on |
| | Star Peru: 55 lbs plus 8 lbs carry-on |
| | Taca: 70 lbs total |

Terms & Conditions

- **A deposit of \$500.00 per person is required to confirm a place on the tour. If cancelled on or before May 20, 2013, deposit is fully refundable less a processing fee of \$20.00 per person. .**
- **Balance is due on or before May 20, 2013 and is non refundable.**
- Payment may be made by check, wire transfer or credit card.
- Cost increases due to currency exchange, government fees, taxes, surcharges or other reason beyond our control are payable by the client at final payment.
- We strongly recommend purchase of Trip Cancellation Insurance.

- Any changes to the confirmed itinerary within 2 weeks of final departure will incur a \$75 fee per change.
- Transfer service includes carriage of one suitcase and a carry on, per person. If you plan to bring additional luggage, please advise so that we can arrange a larger vehicle, at additional cost.
- All descriptions and photographs are approximate renderings and not a guarantee of what you will see or necessarily depict your specific accommodation. All tours are subject to change based on local conditions.
- Hotel check in times are typically mid-afternoon and check out is typically mid morning (exact times vary). If you wish to guarantee early check in or late check out at any hotel, please advise us in advance. Additional costs will apply.
- All tour and transfer pick up times will be advised locally by your guide in each destination.
- If you have requested special bedding (king or queen bedded room, for example) or a special request for a room (such as non-smoking), every effort will be made to accommodate these requests. However, these room types may not be offered in some hotels, or, if offered, may not be available upon check –in. The individual hotels are responsible for the actual room allocation. **Non smoking rooms will be automatically requested unless otherwise advised. Bedding will be twin beds or 2 queen beds unless otherwise advised.**
- Visa and passport requirements vary for each country. It is the travelers' responsibility to familiarize themselves with latest requirements for the countries they are visiting.
- Airport departure taxes are not included in land cost. Unless included in your airline tickets, International taxes are approximately \$25 - \$45 and domestic taxes approximately \$6 - \$15 (subject to change) and are payable directly at the airport.
- All airfares are subject to change prior to ticketing.
- It is the travelers' responsibility to familiarize themselves with the latest health requirements for the countries they are visiting.
- All itineraries are sold as complete packages and we cannot break out pricing.
- Payment of a deposit constitutes your acceptance of our full Terms & Conditions.

PERU FACT SHEET

PHYSICAL ABILITY REQUIREMENTS

The Sacred Valley, our first destination is at 8000 feet. Machu Picchu is 8500 feet, Cusco is 10,000 and Lake Titicaca is at 13,000 feet. Lima is at sea level. For those of you who reside at sea level, this will be a gradual increase in altitude, but you may suffer some discomfort the first 24 hours such as lightheadedness, headache, or queasy stomach. You must drink plenty of water, even if you are not thirsty and avoid liquor and heavy meals the first 24 hours. If you have altitude concerns, please check with your local physician about possible preventive medication for altitude sickness.

There is no minimum age limit for children on this tour, but your child must be able to keep up with a steady pace of touring on most days. The most strenuous activity will be the optional Huayna Picchu hike at Machu Picchu and a one hour hike uphill (on sturdy Inka steps) during the full day Lake Titicaca excursion. These hikes are not rushed, as the guide will go at the pace of the Single Parent Tour group, but you and your child must have the stamina to complete these uphill hikes. If you have concerns about your physical abilities or that of your child, feel free to email or call me. Contact info is on first page of the itinerary.

DOCUMENTATION

- U.S. citizens are required to have a valid passport valid for at least 6 months from date of entry into Ecuador.
- Visas not required for U. S. citizens.
- Vaccinations not required.
- We also strongly recommend a letter of permission from the absentee parent allowing you to take your child out of the country. Forms available upon request.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Lima's climate will be warm and humid. All other destinations are in the Andes Mountains where you can expect dry pleasant weather in the daytime, usually 60's, with temperatures dropping into the 40's at night. Bring a sweater or light jacket for evenings or buy one or more of those beautiful alpaca sweaters. Hats and sunscreen are a must for this sunny high altitude climate. Light cotton long sleeve shirts also come in handy as sun protection during touring.

Lima is now the gourmet capital of South America with the rest of Peru following suit. Like France 20 years ago, it is almost impossible to get a bad meal in Peru, even in the simplest of restaurants. Food is varied and always fresh – meats, chicken, seafood, plus a variety of fruits, vegetables, potatoes and corn. Try some of their local soups, like locro, a delicious mixture of potatoes and cheese, handed down from the Inka Empire. Meals are prepared and presented with pride. Try the local popcorn, a crunchy delight, also handed down by the Inkas.

Peru has a very strong and well organized tourism infrastructure. Although it is still a third world country, you will find the trains and hotels to be very comfortable. They are clean and neat and things run on time. Tourism is a major factor in the Peruvian economy and Peruvians want all visitors to enjoy themselves while they learn about their fascinating and beautiful country. We have carefully selected first class boutique hotels for you, which offer local character and history, as well as modern facilities. Non smoking rooms will be requested throughout and bedding will be twin beds or 2 queen beds, depending upon the hotel.

Shopping is everywhere. Expect to be approached by local indigenous vendors selling everything from woven water bottle carriers to alpaca sweaters and blankets. These ubiquitous mobile vendors offer some of the best bargains and do remember to bargain!

AIRFARE

International Airfare: International airfare is not included in the tour cost. Tour members will be coming from different cities in the USA and possibly Canada. We recommend booking your own international airfare to and from Lima, Peru. You need to arrive Lima early morning on July 20 or you can arrive the evening of July 19 and we will book your airport hotel reservation for you, upon request, at additional cost. The hotel is conveniently adjacent to the airline terminal.

For the return flight, you should book a late evening flight leaving Lima the evening of July 27. Most flights leave between 10:00pm and midnight and this is ideal.

If you wish, Maxim Tours can secure an international airfare quote for you from our consolidator. Then you can decide which fare is best for you.

Domestic airfare: Domestic airfare is not included in your tour cost. Maxim Tours will be happy to provide confirmation and air tickets for you or you may choose to book your own local flights. Again it is always a good idea to compare airfares.

All tour members must fly on the following flights:

July 20 – Lan # 2029 – leave Lima 7:00am/arrive Cusco 8:20am

July 25 - Lan # 2111 - leave Cusco 3:30pm/arrive Juliaca 4:25pm

July 27 - Lan # 2115 - leave Juliaca 8:20am/arrive Lima 11:10am

The current airfare quote is \$626.00 per person including taxes for all 3 flights. Maxim Tours charges a \$50.00 ticketing fee per person, in addition to the airfare.