Peru

Machu Picchu & the Royal Estates of the Incas

with Joanne Pillsbury S72, Andrall E. Pearson Curator of Ancient American Art, The Metropolitan Museum of Art

September 3 – 11, 2023
Dear Princetonian,

In Peru’s lush Sacred Valley, Inca emperors constructed glorious royal estates. The most famous is Machu Picchu, the UNESCO-listed, 15th-century winter palace. While the Incas were vanquished in the 16th century by Spanish conquistadors, their masterpieces of architecture and landscape design stand as evidence of their incredible ingenuity and aesthetic vision. In September 2023, join us in Peru for inside looks at these splendid Inca monuments and much more on a specially designed program co-sponsored by The Metropolitan Museum of Art.

We are thrilled that Joanne Pillsbury S72, The Met’s celebrated curator of ancient American art, will join us as this program’s study leader. With her expert guidance and access, go behind the scenes of Machu Picchu and other marvelous Inca palaces and fortresses. At Machu Picchu, a private guide will accompany you to uncover its secrets. Admire its magnificent stonework, achieved without iron tools or mortar. As scholars have learned so much about Machu Picchu recently, this private tour will provide new discoveries even if you’ve traveled here before.

Visit some of Joanne’s favorite, less-explored Inca sites in the Sacred Valley, including Ollantaytambo, a spectacular fortress where the Incas had a rare victory over the Spanish. Tour colorful colonial mansions and pre-Inca treasures in Lima, Peru’s vibrant modern capital. A highlight here will be excellent pre-Inca ceramics and goldwork at the Museo Larco, all housed in a mansion constructed on a seventh-century pyramid. Fly over the Andes to Cusco, the capital of the Inca Empire. Discover its Spanish colonial monastery built atop the ruins of the Incas’ most lavish temple.

You will also meet several gifted artisans who are carrying the Incas’ artistic legacy forward. The founder of the Centro de Textiles Tradicionales del Cusco will privately lead us through her textile workshop and collection. Conclude upon return to Lima, where a curator will showcase colonial treasures inside the Museo Pedro de Osma, housed in an Art Nouveau mansion.

As Princeton travelers will be joined by those from The Metropolitan Museum of Art, we encourage you to reserve your space now by contacting our partner tour operator, Arrangements Abroad, at 800-221-1944. We hope you will join us for this remarkable exploration of Peru’s ancient marvels and cultural traditions.

Kind regards,

Bridget St. Clair
Director, Alumni Education and Travel
Princeton University

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TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

ENJOY a scenic train ride to awe-inspiring Machu Picchu, where you will have a guided exploration of this royal Inca retreat, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, over two days. Plus, join a curator at Cusco’s Casa Concha to see treasures excavated from the site.

GO behind the scenes of less-visited Inca palaces and fortresses that rival Machu Picchu, including the fortress of Ollantaytambo, with its spectacular maze of cobblestone streets in Peru’s Sacred Valley; and the vast, astonishing Sacsayhuamán, a citadel built with enormous stones, some up to 200 tons.

DELIGHT in special, curator-led tours at Lima’s Museo Larco, with its pre-Hispanic collection of ceramics, gold, and silver objects housed in a beautifully restored mansion built on a seventh-century pyramid; and the Museo Pedro de Osma, with its private collection of viceregal art housed in a splendid Art Nouveau mansion.

JOIN the founder of the Centro de Textiles Tradicionales del Cusco for an exclusive tour of its traditional Andean textiles created by master weavers, a celebration of an Inca artform.

ATTEND a Cusco art workshop led by local artists who will touch on traditional techniques and materials.

OUR STUDY LEADER

A specialist in the arts of the ancient Americas, Joanne Pillsbury S72 is Andrall E. Pearson Curator of Ancient American Art at The Metropolitan Museum of Art. She is the author, editor, or co-editor of numerous publications, including the three-volume Guide to Documentary Sources for Andean Studies, 1530–1900, and Past Presented: Archaeological Illustration and the Ancient Americas and the Alfred H. Barr, Jr. Award-winning Ancient Maya Art at Dumbarton Oaks. Her 2017 exhibition catalogue, Golden Kingdoms: Luxury Arts in the Ancient Americas (prepared with Timothy Potts and Kim Richter), was the winner of a PROSE Award for Excellence.
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3: ARRIVAL IN LIMA, PERU
Upon arrival, you will be transferred to the deluxe Miraflores Park, a Belmond hotel set on the Pacific Ocean in one of the city’s most stylish neighborhoods.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4: LIMA
Attend a morning lecture, followed by an exploration of Plaza Mayor, whose history predates the arrival of the Spanish. Then, visit Casa de Aliaga, a colonial mansion that Francisco Pizarro originally gifted to one of his captains, Jeronimo de Aliaga. The property has remained in the same family for 17 generations. In Lima’s UNESCO-listed historic center, view several important colonial buildings, including the Basílica y Convento de San Francisco de Lima. Transfer to the Pueblo Libre district, where you will visit the Museo Larco, housed in a beautifully restored mansion built on a pre-Columbian pyramid from the seventh century. Admire its extensive pre-Hispanic collection of metalwork and superb pre-Inca pottery. After lunch at the Cafe del Museo, return to the hotel. This evening, attend a welcome reception and dinner at a local restaurant showcasing Lima’s renowned cuisine.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5: LIMA / CUSCO / CHINCHERO / SACRED VALLEY
On a morning flight to Cusco, enjoy a condor’s-eye view of the dramatic Andes. Upon arrival, transfer to the village of Chinchero, and tour its 17th-century colonial church built on top of the remains of an Incan palace. In Cusco, join the founder and director of the Centro de Textiles Tradicionales del Cusco for an inside look at its collection of authentic Andean textiles. Then, venture to the Sacred Valley of the Incas, home to a lush and rugged landscape, charming Andean towns, and Inca terraces still farmed in the traditional manner. Check in for a two-night stay at the Tambo del Inka Hotel, where you’ll enjoy dinner this evening.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6: SACRED VALLEY / CHINCHERO
This morning, explore the Incan fortress of Ollantaytambo. In 1536, Manco Inca and his band of rebels defeated Pizarro’s soldiers here in one of the few battles lost by the Spanish; the village below the ruins retains its original Inca layout and character. Return to Chinchero, and transfer to the Yucay Museo de Cultura Viva, where works in textile, adobe, clay, and silver are created using traditional Andean techniques. Make your way to Casa Hacienda Orihuela, a family-owned estate with a varied collection of ceramics, paintings, weapons, photography, ceremonial vessels, and the ceramic bulls of Pucara. While here, enjoy a hosted family-style lunch amid a grove of eucalyptus trees. Return to the hotel with dinner at leisure.
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7: SACRED VALLEY / MACHU PICCHU / AGUAS CALIENTES
Depart by train for a scenic morning journey to Machu Picchu, “the Lost City of the Incas.” This royal summer retreat, untouched by the conquistadors, was unknown to archaeologists until American explorer Hiram Bingham rediscovered it a century ago. Formed with granite blocks without the aid of iron tools, Machu Picchu’s expertly crafted, marvelously beautiful structures were planned to harmonize with the spectacular landscape. Ascend to Machu Picchu and, after lunch, there will be time to explore the site before checking in for an overnight stay in Aguas Calientes.       B,L,D

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8:  MACHU PICCHU / CUSCO
This morning is at leisure to further explore Machu Picchu. You may wish to rise early to hike the short distance to Inti Punku, the Inca “sun gate,” to witness the sun rise through the mist over Machu Picchu. Alternatively, climb to Huayna Picchu, the rocky peak offering panoramic views of this magnificent site. Following lunch, descend to Aguas Calientes and depart by train for Cusco. Upon arrival, transfer to the elegant Monasterio for a two-night stay, with dinner at the hotel.                                                         B,L,D

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9: CUSCO
Discover Cusco, ancient capital of the Incas, on a tour that includes the Plaza de Armas and its strikingly ornate cathedral. A special highlight is the Convento de Santo Domingo, built atop the ruins of the legendary Coricancha, once the Inca Empire’s most lavish temple. Before lunch, visit Casa Concha, a colonial house that now houses archaeological finds from Machu Picchu. Stop to see the ancient maze of Kenko before viewing the Inca ruins of Puca Pucara (Red Fortress). Then, venture to the amazing fortress of Sacsayhuamán, constructed with enormous stones held together without mortar. Later, you may choose to attend an art workshop highlighting traditional techniques including glazed ceramics and gold-leaf application led by local artists. Dinner is at leisure.                                             B,L

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10: CUSCO / LIMA
Depart on a short flight to Lima, where, upon arrival, you will continue to the chic Barranco district. Take a special tour of the Museo Pedro de Osma, a private collection of viceregal art housed in a splendid Art Nouveau mansion. After a farewell lunch, transfer to the Miraflores Park hotel, where dayrooms have been reserved. Later, drive to the Lima airport for an overnight flight to the U.S.   B,L

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11: LIMA / RETURN
After your late-night departure from Lima, arrive home in the U.S. in the mid-morning on Monday.

WALKING ACTIVITIES NOTE: On this splendid journey in Peru, you will visit high-altitude historical sites with unevenly paved pathways and steep staircases without handrails. Guests should be in good health, be able to stand unassisted for more than an hour at a time, and capable of walking up to a mile without stopping. Broken-in walking shoes are a must.

DISCLAIMER: This itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of Princeton Journeys and Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at https://alumni.princeton.edu/journeys/ancient-civilizations-peru.
PROGRAM RATE

$7,149 per person, double rate
$9,249 single rate

RATE INCLUDES

- Seven nights accommodations as per itinerary
- Day rooms prior to evening departure from Lima on final day (September 10)
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner); bottled water, soft drinks, juices, and coffee/tea with all meals; house wine with lunches and dinners
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- First-class seats on the Vistadome train (Sacred Valley-Machu Picchu / Machu Picchu-Cusco)
- One-way, internal, economy-class flights (Lima-Cusco / Cusco-Lima)
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation and entrance fees for all included visits
- Airport/hotel/airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Taxes, service, and porterage charges; gratuities to local guides and drivers

NOT INCLUDED IN RATES

- International airfare; passport/visa fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; excess baggage; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.

ACCOMMODATIONS

MIRAFLORES PARK, A BELMOND HOTEL, LIMA
Set in Lima’s most fashionable district, this luxury hotel combines personalized service, exceptional dining, marble bathrooms, and marvelous facilities to create the perfect base from which to explore.

TAMBO DEL INKA, URUBAMBA
Featuring a private train station to Machu Picchu, the Tambo del Inka includes rooms with mountain or river views, free Wi-Fi access, and flat-screen TVs. Some rooms offer oxygen enrichment systems, with oxygen tanks available upon request.

INKATERRA MACHU PICCHU PUEBLO HOTEL, AGUAS CALIENTES
Located in an intimate Andean village, surrounded by cloud forest, terraced hills and waterfalls, this hotel features 83 whitewashed adobe casitas. Explore its exquisite 12-acre landscape hosting the world’s largest native orchid collection (372 species).

MONASTERIO, A BELMOND HOTEL, CUSCO
A centuries-old monastery, this hotel boasts interiors rich with art and antiques and dining by candlelight among the cloisters.
PRINCETON JOURNEYS
PERU: MACHU PICCHU & THE ROYAL ESTATES OF THE INCAS
SEPTEMBER 3–11, 2023
RESERVATION FORM

To secure your reservation, please call Arrangements Abroad at 212-514-8921 or 800-221-1944, fax: 212-344-7493; or email: trips@arrangementsabroad.com; or complete this form and return it with your deposit of $1,000 per person (of which $500 is non-refundable for administrative fees), to be paid by debit card, credit card, wire transfer, or check payable to Arrangements Abroad. Mail to: Arrangements Abroad, 260 West 39th Street, 17th Floor, New York, NY 10018-4424.

Name(s) in full as on passport(s). Please print. Date of Birth Princeton Affiliation

Name(s) in full as on passport(s). Please print. Date of Birth Princeton Affiliation

Address

City State Zip

Telephone (home) (business)

Fax E-mail

ACCOMMODATIONS
Hotel room preference ❑ One bed ❑ Two beds ❑ Single

I wish to share a room with _______________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

FORM OF PAYMENT
❑ Enclosed is my check (payable to Arrangements Abroad) ❑ Debit card ❑ Credit card

Name on debit/credit card

Debit/credit card number

3- or 4-digit security code Expiration date

I/We confirm that I/we have carefully read and agree to the Terms & Conditions of this Program (see https://alumni.princeton.edu/journeys/ancient-civilizations-peru to review or call for a copy). I/We agree to full payment 120 days prior to departure. Each participant must sign below.

Signature (required) Date

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