Manos Unidas International
Cusco: Festival of the Sun Tour
June 21- June 29, 2023

Trip Overview

This unique tour dives deep into the heart of the imperial city and the vibrant Andean culture. We start the tour with a traditional ceremony to honor mother earth and all our relations on the sacred day of the Winter solstice: June 21. The next few days are spent exploring the ancient city, nearby ruins, Andean foothills, neighboring communities and participating in local festivities as the city anticipates the Festival of the Sun on June 24.

The tour then goes into the heart of the Sacred Valley of the Incas and winds through local indigenous communities where we will walk through the land and learn with a local family. We will rest our heads in a magical place surrounded by 360 degree views of ancient peaks respected by the locals as the guardians of the valley before taking our journey to the famed Macchu Picchu.

We will enjoy a train ride with gorgeous views of lush landscape and spend the day walking the lands once called the great city. An evening soak in the local mineral hot pools will be a great end to our long journey before heading back to the Sacred Valley.

Our last day will be spent visiting a local social project serving children with disabilities in the surrounding communities.

We will have a day to rest and recover in the gorgeous valley before heading back for our departure home.

We invite you to join us on this special journey back to the land we called "home" for many years during one of the most incredible and magical times of the year.

Your Hosts



Celeste Marion and Calin Garcia are life -long travelers, adventures and lovers of culture and community. These attributes are what led the couple to meet near Cusco and raise a young family there. They both resided in the Andes for 15+ years and are deeply connected to the ancient wisdom, practices and traditions of the culture and local community. The family is thrilled to share Peru with you, to walk through the streets and villages that are a part of their upbringing. Celeste and Calin will accompany you each day of your trip alongside official tour leaders.

Full Itinerary



Wednesday, June 21

Meet in Cusco, Peru. Each traveler is responsible for their own transportation and arrival. MUI can help support travel coordination.

Acclimatize, rest, relax.

Dinner at local restaurant

Solstice ceremony- pago a la tierra

Hotel Cusco: Tierra Viva or equivalent



Thursday, June 22

Breakfast at hotel

Cusco city tour: San Pedro market, off the beaten path tour, Sacsayhuaman ruins, Q'enqo, optional horse riding

Lunch: on tour

Cusco festivities in the evening

Dinner: own choice based on recommendations

Hotel Cusco: Tierra Viva or equivalent



Friday, June 23

Breakfast in hotel

Maras, Moray, Salineras

1 hour drive from Cusco to see the mysterious circular ruins of Moray and adjacent natural salt flats

Lunch: in the town of Urubamba

Dinner: own choice based on recommendations

Hotel Cusco: Tierra Viva or equivalent



Saturday, June 24

Inti Raymi celebration!

8:00am: Meet at Kori Cancha to see the sun salutation then move to the Plaza de Armas

Lunch near Plaza

Afternoon in Sacsayhuaman. Ticket to see formal show is optional ($220)

Hotel Cusco: Tierra Viva or equivalent



Sunday, June 25

Breakfast at hotel

Transit to Artisanal town of Pisaq, visit a Llama farm on the way.

Visit the artisan market and walk around town.

Lunch in town.

Afternoon transport to hotel

Dinner at the hotel.

Hotel: Melissa Wasi



Monday, June 26th

Breakfast at hotel

Visit to Lake Kinsacocha

Meet local family and walk from lake to their home, learning about traditions of the indigenous community *Amaru*

Traditional lunch with family

Free afternoon

Hotel: Melissa Wasi



Tuesday, June 27th

Route to Machu Picchu!

Breakfast in Hotel

Transfer to Ollantaytambo (2 hours)

Explore and Lunch in Ollantaytambo town

Train to Aguas Calientes (2 hours)

Night in AC, go up to thermal pools

Hotel: TBD



Wednesday, June 28

8am bus to Machu Picchu (6am optional)

Guided tour of Inca citadel and time to freely explore

2pm bus down to town

Lunch

Evening train to Cusco

Hotel: Cusco



Thursday, June 29

Morning visit to the local community project supporting children and youth with disabilities

Last opportunities for shopping around Cusco

Fly out of Cusco to Lima and home

INCLUDED:

DAY 1: PRIVATE TAXI FROM THE AIRPORT TO THE HOTEL, HOLISTIC TOUR GUIDE, QUERO MASTER AND OFFERING TO THE PACHAMAMA

DAY 2: CITY TOUR; PRIVATE TRANSPORTATION, TOUR GUIDE.

DAY 3: TOUR MORAY; PRIVATE TRANSPORTATION, TOUR GUIDE, BUFFET LUNCH.

DAY 4: FESTIVAL OF THE SUN (INTI RAYMI) ENTRANCE TICKET PREFERRED AREA. (229 USD PER PERSON) THIS TICKET IS **NOT** INCLUDED IN THE TOTAL PRICE.

DAY 5: PISAC TOUR, PRIVATE TRANSPORTATION, TOUR GUIDE, LLAMAS FARM EXPERIENCES.

DAY 6: TOUR TO KINSACOCHA; PRIVATE TRANSPORTATION, TOUR GUIDE, RURAL EXPERIENCES, LUNCH.

DAY 7:PRIVATE TRANSPORTATION FROM PISAC TO OLLANTAYTAMBO TRAIN STATION TRAVEL ASSISTANT, ONE-WAY TRAIN TICKETS FROM OLLANTAYTAMBO TO AGUAS CALIENTES, BUS TICKET UP AND DOWN, ENTRANCE TICKET TO MACHUPICCHU, TOUR GUIDE.

DAY 8: RETURN TRAIN TICKET FROM AGUAS CALIENTES TO OLLANTAYTAMBO, TRANSPORTATION FROM OLLANTAYTAMBO TO CUSCO.

DAY 9: ASSISTANCE IN THE SOCIAL PROJECT in CUSCO. PRIVATE TAXI FROM THE HOTEL TO THE AIRPORT THIS MARK THE END OF THE JOURNEY

- **8 NIGHTS IN HOTEL WITH BREAKFAST CATEGORY 3 STARS WITH POSSIBILITIES TO UPGRADE.**

Services included:

- Pre-departure orientation
- Support /suggestions for booking travel
- Personalized accompaniment during the trip
- Support with any medical needs or emergencies

PRICE PER PERSON: $1750 USD

(Based on Double Occupancy)

CHILDREN FROM 5 TO 12: $1190 USD

(Based on Triple Occupancy)

DOES NOT INCLUDE:

INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS
FESTIVAL OF THE SUN (INTI RAYMI) ENTRANCE TICKET PREFERRED AREA. (229 USD PER PERSON) THIS TICKET IS **NOT** INCLUDED IN THE TOTAL PRICE.
GENERAL TICKET TO VISIT THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES ($40)
HOT SPRINGS IN AGUAS CALIENTES
FOODS NOT MENTIONED IN THE PROGRAM
TIPS FOR GUIDES