



Pilgrimage Tour to South America

November 5 to 20, 2015

OPTIONAL PRE-EXTENSION TO CUSCO, MACHU PICCHU, and LAKE TITICACA (Days 1-6 are optional)

Day 0, Thurs, Nov 5: Departure for South America.

Day 1, Fri, Nov 6: Cusco (via Lima). Elevation: 3,400 m - 11,200 ft. **People arrive from various places in the U.S. and abroad. Some arrive the evening of Day 0 and others arrive early on Day 1.** Rest until afternoon. Visit Main Square, Cathedral and temple of Coricancha (the city itself is UNESCO World Heritage site). **Overnight in Cusco.**

B (Breakfast), L (Lunch) included

Day 2, Sat Nov 7: The Sacred Valley of the Incas. In the morning visit Sacsayhuaman. Afterwards, take bus to the Sacred Valley and visit the ruins of Pisac and Ollantaytambo. In the evening, take the train to Aguas Calientes.

Overnight in Aguas Calientes. B, L

Day 3, Sun Nov 8: Machu Picchu (2,430 meters - 7,970 ft) by bus and back to Cusco. Machu Picchu is considered the most amazing urban creation of the Inca Empire and one of the most important UNESCO World Heritage sites.

Overnight in Cusco.

Day 4, Mon Nov 9: Cusco to Puno by train. The rail trip from Cusco to Puno on the luxurious Andean Explorer is spectacular, one of the world's great train journeys. Leave at 8 AM and arrive at 5:30 PM. A gourmet 3-course lunch, afternoon tea, and entertainment are included. **Overnight in Puno. B, L**

Day 5, Tue, Nov 10: Puno to Lake Titicaca by bus. Cross the Peruvian-Bolivian border to Copacabana. Take boat to **Sun Island (Isla del Sol)**. Elevation: 3,800 m – 12,460 ft. Legend states that it was here that Father God/Sun summoned Manco Kapac and Mama Ocllo, inspiring them to found the Inca nation. Visit the Chincana ruins, and experience sunset on the highest point of the island. **Overnight on Isla del Sol. B, L, D**

Day 6, Wed, Nov 11: Early in the morning walk via the Inca stairs to the southern part of the island and return to Copacabana. **Take bus to La Paz** via archaeological excavation site at Tiwanaku (spiritual and political center of the pre-Inca empire, a UNESCO World Heritage site). La Paz elevation: 3,650 m (11,975 ft). **Overnight in La Paz. B, L**

Anyone who wants to bypass Days 1-6 should arrange to arrive to La Paz by Wednesday, November 11, or early morning of the 12th.

GATHERING OF LIBERAL RELIGIOUS WOMEN IN YUNGAS, NEAR LA PAZ, BOLIVIA (Days 7-10)

Day 7, Thurs, Nov 12: La Paz city tour (Calle Jaén, Plaza Murillo, Plaza San Francisco, the Prado, and some of the colorful markets). After lunch, take coach to Yungas – “a kind of paradise on earth that is very hard to leave”: a tropical and subtropical broadleaf forest ecoregion, characterized by high levels of biodiversity. **B, L, D**

Days 8, 9, 10: Gathering in Yungas region. No planned tours.

Days 8 and 9 full board; Day 10 half board (B, L). Hotel Rio Selva, Coroico, Bolivia (1150 m/3,775 ft altitude).

The hotel has 118 rooms, outdoor and indoor pools, a fitness center, and a sauna.

Coroico is “one of the most scenic little towns in Bolivia, halfway up a forested mountain slope, with views of tropical valleys crowned by the Royal Mountain Range (Cordillera Real de los Andes).”

Day 10, Sun, Nov 15: Yungas to La Paz (in the afternoon). Overnight in La Paz or return home.

Day 11, Mon, Nov 16: Fly back to your home country or continue on the optional extension

OPTIONAL EXTENSION TO SOUTHWEST BOLIVIA (Days 11-16)

Day 11, Mon, Nov 16: Fly to Sucre (elevation 2,750 m – 9,000 ft). Sucre is the constitutional capital and former colonial capital of Bolivia. In the afternoon, visit Old Town Sucre (a UNESCO World Heritage site); ASUR Museum of Indigenous Art, and the Franciscan Monastery of La Recoleta. **Overnight in Sucre. B, L**

Day 12, Tue, Nov 17: In the morning, visit Casa de la Libertad (the “birthplace” of the Bolivian nation), the market, and the cemetery. In the afternoon, visit Nacion Kara Kara indigenous tribe. **Overnight in Sucre. B, L**

Day 13, Wed, Nov 18: Sucre to Uyuni through Potosí. Potosí is the world’s highest city (4,000 m – 13,400 ft) and a UNESCO World Heritage site. Lunch and tour in Potosí. Visit Casa de la Moneda and view the city from the roof of San Francisco Church. Continue to Uyuni. **Overnight in Uyuni. B, L, D**

Day 14, Thurs, Nov 19: Daytrip to the world’s largest salt flat, Salar de Uyuni (elevation 3,656 m –11,995 ft). Visit Isla Incahuasi (with coral reefs and giant cactus) and the viewpoint of Volcano Tunupa. Take a short walk to the *chullpares* (Inca tombs). In the afternoon, return to Uyuni and visit the train cemetery. **Overnight in Uyuni. B, L, D**

Day 15, Fri, Nov 20: Fly from Uyuni to La Paz. Overnight in La Paz or fly back to your home country. B

Day 16, Sat, Nov 21: Transfer to the airport. B

Details of the itinerary above are subject to change.

Please select from the following four packages:

1. Gathering of U*U Women in Yungas, near La Paz, Bolivia – 5-6 days (November 11 to 15/16, 2015)
2. Pre-extension (Cusco, Machu Picchu and Lake Titicaca area) plus the Gathering – 10-11 days (November 5 to 15/16, 2015)
3. Gathering plus post-extension (Sucre, Potosí, Salar de Uyuni) – 10-11 days (November 11 to 20/21, 2015)
4. Full tour with Gathering plus both extensions – 15-16 days (November 5 to 20/21, 2015)

*Note that the precise length of your tour will be determined by your flight arrangements.
Some departures are in the evening and some the following morning.*

Prices

Per person, double occupancy:

\$700 Gathering only
\$2,100 Pre-extension Tour and Gathering
\$1,700 Gathering plus Post-extension Tour
\$3,050 Full Tour

Single occupancy:

\$800 Gathering only
\$2,300 Pre-extension Tour and Gathering
\$1,850 Gathering plus Post-extension Tour
\$3,400 Full Tour

The program includes:

- Accommodation in three-star hotels or equivalent and 5-star Hotel Rio Selva Yungas
- Meals only as mentioned in the program (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- Bolivian national flights from La Paz to Sucre and from Uyuni to La Paz (including airport taxes)
- All airport and train station transfers during the tour*
- All ground transportation
- Private English speaking guide on the following days: 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 13, 14
- All entrance fees in Cusco, the Sacred Valley, Machu Picchu (including Huayna Picchu), Isla del Sol, churches and museums in La Paz, Sucre and Potosí, Incahuasi Island and Volcano Tunupa (Salar de Uyuni)
- Basic travel insurance

The program does not include:

- Transportation to and from South America
- Most drinks (coffee, tea, soda, bottled water, alcoholic beverages) except as mentioned in the program
- Tips (guides, drivers, etc.)
- Insurance coverage for trip cancellation and pre-existing medical conditions (available at extra cost)

We expressly point out that you participate in the tour on your own responsibility and at your own risk. By booking the trip you accept our provider's general conditions (available at <http://www.andeanventure.com/de/tyc.php>) and relieve International Women's Convocation and our partner agency from any liability for accidents, illness, loss and/or damage to personal property and unforeseeable events. Please consider purchasing comprehensive travel insurance to cover pre-existing medical conditions and possible trip cancellation, depending on your own health and other situations.

Important Travel Advice

In Bolivia and Peru strikes or road blocks for political or economic reasons can occur repeatedly. They are not directed against tourists but can disrupt travel plans. Adverse weather and natural phenomena such as landslides, floods and unpredictable events can also lead to delays, cancellations or changes of transport connections. Any related costs that might arise from such occurrences are to be borne by the individual traveler.

Bolivia and Peru are in every respect among the most extreme countries in the world. On the one hand this is part of their attraction; on the other hand, it requires a thorough preparation for your trip. The wide variety of climate zones is geographically the most striking characteristic of the Andean countries. The Altiplano and the Sierra are approx. 10,000 to 12,000 feet (3,000 to 3,600 m), which you have to keep in mind when traveling to Lake Titicaca, Salar de Uyuni, or to Cusco. Consult your doctor to make sure that you can comfortably and safely travel under these conditions.

Passport and Visa Requirements

A valid passport is required for travel to these destinations. Your passport must be valid for at least six months beyond the intended length of stay in Bolivia. In addition, a visa is required for American citizens traveling to Bolivia (no visa required for Peru). Please note that a visa is not required for most EU, Canadian, and Australian citizens traveling to Bolivia and/or Peru for a stay up to 30 days. We will provide you with a letter of invitation and hotel booking confirmations, which are required to obtain a travel visa to Bolivia. Please allow at least six weeks to complete the visa process. Bolivian consulates in the United States are located in San Juan, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis, New York City, and Washington, D.C. For more information, please consult <http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/country/bolivia.html>

****Airport transfers may be provided at a nominal fee for those arriving in La Paz November 11th or 12th and/or departing from La Paz following the Gathering on the 16th for a minimum of 5 people traveling together.***

Health Regulations

Yellow fever vaccination is recommended but not required. Consult your family doctor regarding the yellow fever vaccination, possible Hepatitis A and Tetanus vaccinations, tropical diseases and malaria, as well as preventive measures against altitude sickness and diarrhea.

Reservation and Payment Policy

A deposit of \$500 is required with your reservation. We are limited to 35 travelers for the pre and post-gathering extensions. As interest is high, reservations will be honored in the order the deposits are received. Please send your check to International Women's Convocation, 5202 Crawford #19, Houston, TX, 77004, and write "2015 SA Pilgrimage" in the memo space. **The balance is due no later than July 15th, 2015.** Please do not make definite flight arrangements before we inform you that we have reached the minimum number of participants to operate the tour.

Cancellation Forfeitures

Up to 120 days prior to departure: deposit will be refunded, less a service charge of \$100

120 to 90 days prior to departure: full deposit is forfeited

89 to 45 days prior to departure: 30% of tour cost is forfeited

44 to 15 days prior to departure: 60% of tour cost is forfeited

15 days or less prior to departure: 100% of tour cost is forfeited

Please clip and return the form below to International Women's Convocation together with your deposit. Please use one form per traveler unless two people sharing a room are also paying jointly. Questions? Email admin@icuw.com.

Traveler 1 name as it appears on passport: _____

Traveler 2 name as it appears on passport: _____

Street address: _____ Phone: _____

City: _____ St. _____ Zip: _____ Email: _____

Country: _____ Name of congregation: _____

Passport traveler 1: _____ Issue date: _____ Date and place of birth: _____

Passport traveler 2: _____ Issue date: _____ Date and place of birth: _____

Name and phone of emergency contact: _____

Check the travel segment you wish to participate in:

Gathering only

Pre-extension + Gathering

Post-extension + Gathering

Full Tour

I prefer single I am sharing with _____ I wish to share; find me a roommate

I would like to support the participation of South American women at the gathering in Bolivia by making a tax-deductible donation to IWC Bolivia scholarship fund in the amount of 35 50 100 Other _____

Special needs: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____