

Travel  
broadens  
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Jim Gold International Folk Tours

# Peru, Bolivia, Chile

**Cuzco, Sacred Valley,  
Machu Picchu,  
Quechua Village,  
Lake Titicaca, Uyuni,  
La Paz,  
Atacama Desert**

**Led by Martha Tavera**

**May 23-June 4, 2020**



- ★ Visit historic Peruvian and Bolivian cities, and folkloric villages
- ★ See Chile's Atacama desert
- ★ Meet with local dance groups
- ★ International folk dancing, art, history, culture
- ★ Our price includes round-trip airfare, city tours, transfers, hotels, 11 breakfasts, 6 lunches, and 6 dinners. and our own private bus

## **Itinerary**

**Day 1: Saturday, May 23:** Depart from JFK airport in New York City on LATAM airlines,

or independently (“Land Only”) on the airline of your choice.

### **Day 2: Sunday, May 24: Arrive in Lima, Peru**

After clearing customs in Lima and retrieving your bags you will head to LATAM domestic counter and check-in for your connecting flight to Cuzco. A short but spectacular flight over the snow-capped Andes to the oldest inhabited city in the hemisphere, Cuzco, at an elevation of 11,440 feet. Immediate transfer to the Sacred Valley at 8,200 feet of altitude. Upon arrival a host will meet and Transfer you to Del Pilar Urubamba hotel in Sacred Valley, check-in and get some rest to acclimate to the altitude.

On route to the Sacred Valley you will visit the Living Museum of the Andes showcase the South American Camelids such as llamas, vicuñas, guanacos and alpacas in their native environment. You will also enjoy a spinning and weaving demonstration of ancient techniques on how to make clothing from the wool fibers of these animals. You can also see native flowers and some agricultural terraces from the Inca times.



This afternoon enjoy a special musical experience with BACK TO THE ROOTS OF PRE-HISPANIC MUSIC. Experience the sounds of the past in this musical adventure in the heart of the Andes. Discover musical history in its purest essence by being introduced to the Andean value of sounds immersed in the spiritual concepts of life in each instrument. For 2 hours you will encounter the ancient sounds of war, harvest and love and even your own spiritual sound in this mystical endeavor where you would participate playing some of the pre-Inca, Inca and colonial instruments. It is a unique and special experience with cultural interaction.

You will be transferred to Maestro Almonacids house. He is a preserver of pre-Hispanic music culture, as he stores over 4,000 ancient instruments in a small museum in his house. The amazing thing is that he plays every single one of them. Upon arrival he will show you to his private museum where all these antiques are stored. After showing you some of the instruments, he will then proceed to gather everyone together in a circle, where he will explain the significance of about 20 different instruments and play them to make you understand the importance of each sound in the Andean Cosmo-vision. He will then take you to his music workshop where he will show you how to make an instrument. At the end of this unique musical experience, you will be transferred back to your hotel for dinner and overnight. **Meals: dinner.**



### **Day 3: Monday, May 25: Maras, Moray and Quechua Village**

After Breakfast meet your guide at the lobby for your tour to Maras, Moray and Quechua

Village. Pass through unspoiled and picturesque Andean communities on your way to the Incan agricultural experimental center of Moray, famous for its sunken amphitheater, made up of four circular terraces, which appear to fade away into the earth like an artificial crater. The site was apparently an Inca agricultural research station filled with fertile earth and watered by complex irrigation systems, designed for experimenting with crops at various altitudes (some of which run down to depths of 100 meters).

Continue to the impressive Maras salt pools formed by water emerging from a lake inside a mountain in the Urubamba Valley. An amazing view of evaporating ponds for the extraction of salt. Learn about ancestral techniques, which are still used, in agricultural, irrigation and salt-recollection tasks, as well as in Andean festivals and rites.



Visit an authentic Quechua Village to feel the way of life of the Inca's ancestors. The Inca himself was a noble Quechua. They live off the land and are always wearing their colorful ponchos, see Quechua children scamper about while women are weaving their family's clothes. A meaningful experience!

Lunch at "Wayra", while having lunch you will enjoy a Paso horses show.

"Caballo de Paso" known worldwide for their smooth gaited movements and unusual spirit. No other horse combines strength, intelligence and beauty so perfectly as the Peruvian Paso Horse. The particular characteristic of the Paso Horse is precisely the reason for its name: the sublime charm of its typical step. As it walks, its front legs step very high and forward while the hooves sway to the sides in a graceful and synchronized movement. Enjoy a delightful demonstration of the skills of this unique member of the horse kingdom. Lunch at the celebrated Wayra at "Sol y Luna" in the Sacred Valley. **Meals: breakfast and lunch.**



#### **Day 4: Tuesday, May 26: Machu Picchu**

You start the day with morning transfer to the Ollantaytambo Station where you will enjoy a 2:30 hour train ride aboard the [Vistadome train](#) through the Sacred Valley of Urubamba to Aguas Calientes and the "Lost City of the Incas", Machu Picchu. Upon arrival to Aguas Calientes you will be met by a tour representative who will escort you to [Casa Andina Machu Picchu](#), and check-in. After a brief stop walk to the bus terminal for a 20 minutes ride up to the entrance of Machu Picchu.

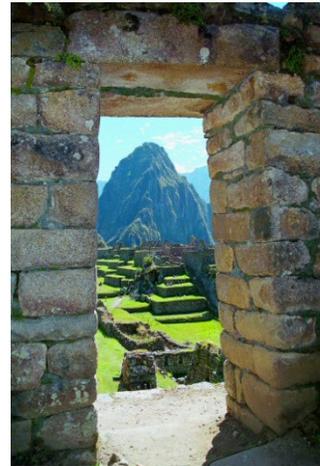
Perched 8,200 feet above the valley, it was hidden by mountains and semi-tropical jungles for 400 years until discovered by Hiram Bingham of Yale University in 1911. Archaeologists believe that the Inca "Virgin of the Sun" took refuge from the Spanish Conquistadors here. Your tour, by a private English speaking guide, will last for approximately 2 ½ hours. Lunch will be available at the Mapi Hotel located in Aguas Calientes at the foot of the mountain. Afterwards

you are left with plenty of free time to explore the ruins on your own, go into town and explore the many shops, or you can return to your hotel and relax. **Meals: breakfast, lunch and dinner.**

*Note: Due to strict luggage limitations on the trains we request that you pack only what you will need for your time in Machu Picchu and the remainder of your bags will be stored, free of charge by the hotel until you return.*

#### **Day 5: Wednesday, May 27: Machu Picchu/Cuzco**

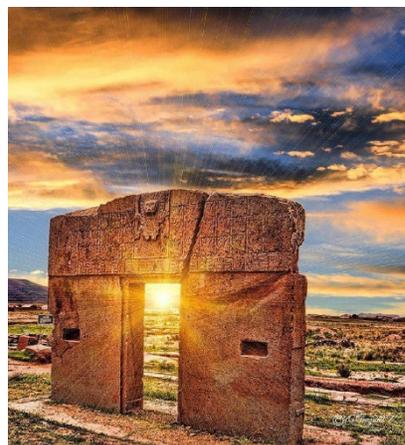
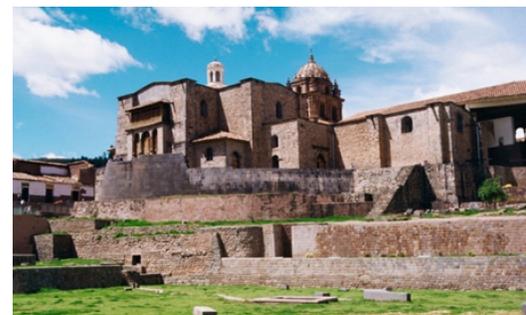
Free morning, for you to stroll to the Inca Bridge, a secret entrance used by the Inca's army or walk toward the Inca Trail to find the historic Intipunku or "Sun Gate". You can also hike the steep stone-paved trail of Huayna Picchu (additional fees apply / reservations needed), the pyramid-shape mountain above Machu Picchu for a breathtaking "condor view" of the citadel or visit Manuel Chavez Museum or hike in Mandor Valley or just enjoy the thermal springs, shops and restaurants in the town.



In the early afternoon, approximately 4:00 p.m., meet back at the train station to depart on the Vistadome train back to Cuzco. Upon arriving to Cuzco (Poroy Station) meet your bus and transfer to the Xima Hotel in Cuzco, and overnight. **Meals: breakfast.**

#### **Day 6: Thursday, May 28: Cuzco City tour & nearby ruins – Dinner show at Mamaji Restaurant**

This morning after breakfast, at about 9:00pm, begin your city tour. Visitors are caught up in the excitement of touring the ancient capital of the Inca Empire, a delightful combination of Inca and colonial architecture. The tour visits important landmarks such as Cuzco's Cathedral, Plaza de Armas and Koricancha "The Temple of the Sun". This tour of the oldest continuously inhabited city in the western hemisphere also includes the nearby ruins of Kenko, Puca-Pucara, Tambomachay as well as the Sacsayhuaman fortress, an imposing example of Inca military architecture. Return to the hotel. Duration: 4 hours.



In the early evening you will be transferred to Mamaji Restaurant (Sonesta Hotel). Cusco has enough entertainment to keep you busy for a week. Tonight you will enjoy a delicious buffet, which utilizes regional ingredients to rescue the gastronomic roots of the Andes. Dinner is followed by a folkloric show with whirling Peruvian dancers performing a variety of regional entertaining dances, also you will have the opportunity to learn some Huayno steps and an explanation of some musical instruments. **Meals: breakfast and dinner**

#### **Day 7: Friday, May 29: Cuzco /La Paz /Huatajata**

This morning transfer to the airport in time for Amazonas Airlines flight

#535 departing at 10:40am, arriving to La Paz at 12:40pm. Upon arrival, and after clearing customs and retrieving your bags, you will be met by our representative.

From the airport begin a half day tour to the Archaeological site of Tiwanaku. Tiwanaku culture (1.580 BC-1.000 AD), the magnificent ruins of Bolivia and one of the oldest civilizations in the Americas. The Sun Gate, the Temple of Kalasasaya and the Pyramid of Akapana are the sample of a glorious past. Tiwanaku culture was an agrarian based economy with an estimated population of 115.000 inhabitants. The state-controlled agriculture produced the surplus wealth to support the urban center and administrative system. They were outstanding in agriculture, hydraulic, architecture & medicine, as well as in social organization. Due to an economic crisis caused by a long dry season, Tiwanaku collapsed around 1.000 AD.



Continue with your overland journey from Tiwanaku to Huatajata, at the shores of Lake Titicaca. On arrival, visit the Andean Roots Eco Village: The Altiplano Museum; Handicrafts village, the Mud Igloos and the mortuary towers of the Urus Chipayas. Meet the Limachi family, builders of the RA II and Tigris for epic expeditions across the Atlantic Ocean. Enjoy our elegant vicuñas, llamas, alpacas and the mythical Suri. Audiovisual and night experience of "The Mystic World of the Kallawayas", natural healers of Bolivia. They believe that you first have to heal the soul in order to heal your body. Tata Benjo, -our Kallawayawill bless visitors and answer questions by casting his sacred coca leaves. By night visit the Native Observatory Alajpacha. Learn from the Aymaras Cosmvision and watch the southern constellations. Overnight at Hotel Inca Utama & Cultural Resort. **Meals: breakfast**



#### **Day 8: Saturday, May 30: Huatajata/Sun Island**

Breakfast at the hotel. Hydrofoil cruise to Copacabana, also at the shores of Lake Titicaca. Once in Copacabana, visit the shrine and the Dark Indian Virgin.

Hydrofoil cruise to Sun Island, to visit the Pilcocaina Sun Temple. Enjoy a llama trek to the hotel. Lunch upon arrival; the afternoon is at leisure to explore the bucolic surroundings. Dinner and overnight at the cozy "Posada del Inca" Eco Lodge **Meals: breakfast, lunch and dinner**

#### **Day 9: Sunday, May 31: Sun Island/La Paz**

Breakfast at the hotel. The morning is at leisure. Around noon visit the Inca "Grand Stairs" and

the Sacred Fountain; taste the water believed to give eternal youth and happiness. Lunch at the Uma Kollu archaeological Restaurant; Visit the small handicraft market. Hydrofoil cruise to Moon Island, visit the Sun Virgins Temple "Iñak Uyu". Hydrofoil cruise back to Copacabana and overland journey to LA Paz, by a road running parallel to the mighty snowed peaks of the Andes. Transfer to the Hotel presidente, check-in. Early evening dinner at a local restaurant and Folklore show. Enjoy a 2-hour spectacle full of color and rhythm with the most representative dances of Bolivia, like the Morenada, Caporales and Tinkus. **Meals: breakfast lunch and dinner**



### **Day 10: Monday, June 01: La Paz/Uyuni**

This morning transfer to the airport in time for Amazonas Airlines flight # 8302 departing at 8:35 a.m, arriving in Uyuni at 9:25 a.m. Upon arrival, and after retrieving your bags, you will be met by our representative and immediately start an excursion to the Salt Lake and Isla Incawasi. Uyuni is the largest salt flat on Earth, located on the Bolivian Andean Altiplano with 12.000 square Km; the Bolivian Andes offer stunning sceneries which can be hardly matched. The sound of silence makes the heart beats faster and the surreal pentagons of crystalline salt, the pure sky and the cacti, certainly makes you feel that there is no other place like this in the whole world. Lunch at Isla "Incawasi", an oasis with formations of algae and fossils. It is covered by thousands of giant columnar cacti, which can be more than a hundred years old, growing to a height of over 12 mtrs. The landscape against the background of the salt pans extending to the horizon makes it an ideal place for photography hunters. Return to your hotel. Overnight at Jardines de Uyuni Hotel. **Meals: breakfast and lunch**



### **Day 11: Tuesday, June 02: Uyuni / San Pedro de Atacama -Astronomic Tour**

Breakfast at the hotel. Pick up from the hotel and enter the National Park Eduardo Avaroa, with a surface of 714,745 hectares, located at the SW of Potosi in the province of Sud Lipez. The local fauna features unique species adapted to the extreme living conditions in this region, some of them endangered. This place is unique thanks to its lakes, salt pans, volcanoes, snowcapped peaks, plains, thermal springs, some rivers rich in algae and plankton, geothermal geysers, flora and general topography. Visit Laguna Colorada runs through a unique landscape of deserts and mountains. With an area of 60 km<sup>2</sup>, at an altitude of 4,278 mtrs, Laguna Colorada is characterized by the red tone of its waters. It is inhabited by flocks of flamingoes of three species: tokoko (with red plumage), chururu (with whitish plumage) and jututu (with pink plumage). The scenery is exceptionally beautiful at these heights, set off by the impressive redness of the



Lagoon. This is considered to be the most important flamingo watching site in the region. Also vicuñas, llamas and vizcachas can be seen. Continue to “Sol de Mañana” Geysers, with fumaroles and volcanic craters of spectacular formation, covering 1 Km<sup>2</sup>, featuring intense volcanic and fumaroles activity. The crater bottoms display boiling lava; the fumaroles emit spouts of mixed water and superheated steam reaching 80 to 100 mtrs height; this phenomena displays a landscape dating from the beginning of the earth. This geothermal field is located at an altitude of 4.900 mtrs. Visit Laguna Verde, looking as a giant emerald, from where there is an impressive view of Licancabur Volcano, at an altitude of 5,865 mtrs. The special brightness of its green waters in the afternoon is dazzling. The intensely green coloring is due to high magnesium content. Box Lunch included. Overland journey to Hito Cajón (Bolivia/Chile border). At arrival at the border you will be met by our Chile representative and transferred to the Kimal Hotel in San Pedro de Atacama, check-in.

This evening you meet your guide at the lobby for your Astronomic Tour. Duration: 3 hours 30 minutes approx. Subject to weather conditions the main purpose of the tour is that visitors may fully experience the Atacama Desert’s amazing nights, one of the best places in the world



for stargazing. This unforgettable experience initiates visitors in the observation of the universe and offers the possibility of astronomical viewing through high-powered telescopes. The first part of the tour provides an explanation of the skies seen through the naked eye. It offers basic concepts of what is viewed, such as constellations, what to learn from them, how to read a map of the skies and recognize important stars. When the moon is vile, a second possibility is offered involving direct observation through telescopes and taking pictures. This is a unique experience that cannot be compared with images found in books or in the

Internet. The chance of viewing the stars or a planet like Saturn definitely offers unforgettable moments. Notes: These tours are offered on a daily basis and are only suspended when there is a full moon. The tours are 2 ½ hours long and end with a hot beverage before returning to San Pedro. The desert nights are cold so that warm clothing is recommended in order to enjoy the tour at ease. **Meals: breakfast, box lunch and dinner**

### **Day 12: Wednesday, June 03: Full day Tatio Geysers**

This tour offers visits to two quite different spots in the same area: a breath- taking dawn in the immensity of the desert and the simple life of a small shepherd settlement. Early departure to the El Tatio Geysers geothermal field, located at an altitude of 4,000 meters (13,000 ft.) which offers an amazing spectacle at dawn: steaming fumaroles that can reach up to 6 meters of altitude (19 ft.). The experience is complemented with guided walks through the hot craters of mud and small geysers. Arrival to San Pedro de Atacama.



Duration 8 hours. **Meals: breakfast**

**Day 13: Thursday, June 04: Half Day Moon Valley tour**

This tour gives the feeling that we are walking on the surface of another planet. The 43-kilometre ride leads to the Cordillera de la Sal (salt mountain range) a group of attractive natural stone and sand sculptures that millions of years ago formed part of a large lake. Once here, visitors are taken to a surprising lookout to enjoy views of the valley and next destinations. The next stop is the awesome Valle de Marte (valley of Mars) also known as the Valle de la Muerte (Death Valley) with its peculiar stone formations and absolute desert landscape: no vegetation or insects to be seen in what is considered one of the country's most barren regions. Next, the tour ventures on to Las Tres Marias (the three Marys), an interesting geological formation near an old salt mine. At sunset, the exploration ends atop a giant sand dune in Valle de la Luna (moon valley), named this way because of its moon-like landscape where an amazing spectacle of different colors can be admired when the sun slips below the horizon. Transfer to the airport on time for your flight back home. **Meals: breakfast**

**Included in your land-only program:**

Accommodations as follows including breakfast and service charge & taxes

May 24-26, Sacred Valley, ***Del Pilar Urubamba - Standard room***

May 26-27, Machu Picchu Pueblo, ***Casa Andina Machu Picchu – Traditional room***

May 27-29, Cuzco, ***Xima Cuzco Hotel – Standard room***

May 29-30, Huatajata, ***Inca Utama Hotel – Standard room***

May 30-31, Sun Island, ***Posada del Inka Eco Lodge – Standard room***

May 31- June 01, La Paz, ***Hotel Presidente – Standard room***

June 01-02, Uyuni, ***Jardines de Uyuni – Standard room***

June 02-04, San Pedro de Atacama, ***Hotel Kimal – Standard room***

All tours are private with English speaking guide unless otherwise indicated. All entrance fees included

- May 24, Back to root music
- May 25, Maras, Moray & Quechua Village
- May 26, Machu Picchu Tour w/Vistadome Train and lunch
- May 28, Cuzco City tour & Nearby ruins
- May 29, Tiwanaku ruins and Alajpacha observatory
- May 30, Sun Island
- May 31, Moon Island, Folklore show and dinner
- June 01, Uyuni Salt Flats
- June 02, Uyuni/San Pedro de Atacama Astronomic tour
- June 03, Tatio Geysers
- June 04, Moon Valley tour

All transportation as per itinerary by private bus / van with English speaking guide & driver, including all mileage as per program, tolls, taxes, parking fees, driver's expenses, and portage.

All park & museum entrance fees  
Meals included: breakfast (11), lunch (6), dinner (6) (Alcoholic drinks are not included)  
Welcome kit  
24-hour local assistance

**About Martha Tavera**

Martha Tavera was born in Lima, Peru. She attended college in South America and began her career working in the American Embassy in Peru for 3 years. Before she opened Marnella Tours 38 years ago, she worked for American Airlines, Viasa Airways, and Argentina Airlines. During this time she became a member of SITE and was responsible for assisting the opening of the SITE Chapter in Mexico and Brazil. Her travel experience has always been in Tour Operation and Incentives. This gave her a foundation for understanding group travel and also viewing at clients as VIPs and not just clients. She is now in the field of consulting and teaching new employees in the company as well as special customized programs. For more about Martha's career and life go to: <https://bit.ly/2kzIB6Z>



**Land Only: \$4995    Land and Air: \$6295**

**REGISTRATION FORM:**

I can't wait to go! Enclosed is my registration deposit of \$200 per person. Peru/Bolivia/Chile single supplement: \$770. Hotel taxes and service charges: \$145. Gratuities for guides and drivers: \$150. Program subject to change without notice. Cancellations 90 days prior to departure: Total refund: Less than 60 days: No refund. Travel insurance always recommended.

**Total balance due February 1, 2020**

Lima extension: Yes  No

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

No. of people \_\_\_\_\_ Phone\_( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

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