

**Terms & Conditions** 

Rates



# The Sanfilippo Children's Research Foundation Fundraiser Tour

## **Highlights**

Exploring ruins and bargaining at Sacred Valley markets, devouring seafood in Lima, climbing the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu or taking the scenic train, spotting wildlife at our exclusive G Lodge Amazon.

August 18 - Overnight flight to LIMA

## **ITINERARY**

#### **DAY 1 Aug 19 LIMA (1D)**

Arrive in Lima. Included transfer to the hotel. There are no planned activities so check into our hotel and enjoy the city. Tonight we'll enjoy dinner at Mango's Restaurant.

Known as the City of Kings, Peru's capital city Lima was founded by Francisco Pizarro on the Day of the Three Kings (Epiphany) in 1535. The Plaza de Armas is the heart of old Lima, and it is here you find the Cathedral, Government Palace and Archbishop's Palace. The Cathedral dates back to the 1700s and houses the remains of the conquistador Pizarro. To get a feel for colonial Lima, take a cab to the Plaza de Armas and watch the changing of the Palace Guard in the afternoon. Walk the streets surrounding the Jirón de la Unión for great examples of Spanish-colonial architecture and to get a taste for life in a large South American city. An optional city tour visits many of the city's highlights.

Overnight at Casa Andina Private Collection or similar

## **DAY 2 Aug 20 CUZCO (1B,1D)**

Transfer to the airport for the flight to Cuzco (the flight usually departs early – we may leave the hotel as early as 4:00 am). In Cuzco explore this UNESCO world heritage site on a city tour and get used to the altitude. Enjoy dinner at Don Antonio Restaurant.

Cuzco is the continent's oldest continuously inhabited city, and the hub of the South American travel network. The city attracts travellers who come not just to visit a unique destination but also to experience an age-old culture very different from their 20th century way of life; one could easily spend a week just in and around the area. Inca-built stone walls line most of the central

streets and you don't have to go far to see other major Inca ruins. It is a city steeped in history, tradition and legend.

Approximate Distance: 572km Estimated Travel Time: 2.30 hours

Overnight at Casa Andina Private Collection Cuzco or similar

### DAY 3 Aug 21 SACRED VALLEY (1B,1L)

Travel with our local guide through the Sacred Valley of the Incas. An important source of food for the Inca, the Sacred Valley is a lush agricultural region that continues to supply the city of Cuzco with much of its produce. Visit the impressive Pisac ruins and the colourful artisan market (market days only). The day trip finishes in the picturesque village of Ollantaytambo, site of another large Inca ruin. Here we catch our breath and prepare for the hike ahead

Enjoy lunch at Alhambra Restaurant.

Approximate Distance: 95km Estimated Travel Time: 2.30 hours

Overnight at Casa Andina Valle ors imilar

### DAYS 4-7 Aug 22-25 INCA TRAIL TO MACHU PICCHU (4B,3L,3D)

Embark on a 4-day guided Inca Trail hike with visit to Machu Picchu. Not interested in hiking? No problem, enjoy 2 free days in Cuzco then catch the scenic train to Aguas Calientes, our base for visiting Machu Picchu. Both options return to Cuzco on Day 7.

#### **Hiking Option:**

The 4-day Inca Trail to Machu Picchu is physically challenging but worthwhile, and the excursion is within the ability of most reasonably fit. It is a 44-km (27 mile) hike, with 3 high passes to be crossed, one of which reaches an elevation of 4200m (13776 ft). The trail is often steep, and it may rain even during the dry season. The temperatures at night may fall below zero, so it is important to come prepared.

Depart Ollantaytambo for km 82 where we begin our walk in the footsteps of the Incas. Our local crew of porters, cook and guide look after us well for the duration of the hike. Porters carry the majority of the gear for the hike, so those passengers doing the hike only carry a small daypack with water, rain gear, snacks, a camera, etc. As you walk the trail that linked this ancient empire, admire breathtaking views at every step as we move from high plateau areas to dense cloud forest. Depending on the season, you may see a great variety of flora, including miniature and large orchids, and fiery rhododendron bushes.

You pass several smaller ruin sites, the first of which is Llactapata. The second day climb the long steep path to Warmiwañusca, or Dead Woman's Pass. The trail goes through some beautiful cloud forest on the gentle climb to the third pass, where you will walk through a causeway and a tunnel, both original Inca constructions. Soon you reach the serene ruins of Phuyupatamarca, or the 'Town above the Clouds', at about 3650 m (11972 ft) above sea level. We will camp either here or an hour and a half further along close to Wiñay Wayna (Forever Young) ruins, a grandiose terraced hillside site, with panoramic views of the valley below and just a short hike from Machu Picchu.

On the final day of the hike we climb the steps to the Sun Gate overlooking the peaks that surround Machu Picchu. When the morning is clear, there is no way to describe the feeling of the first views of Machu Picchu, as the mist rises off the mountains early in the morning and the famous site appears in front of you.

Take the Vistadome train back to Cuzco.

Overnight at Casa Andina Private Collection Cuzco or similar on Day 7

#### Train Option:

Those passengers not able or interested in the hike spend 2 days in Cuzco, then travel by train to Aguas Calientes, where they overnight (only breakfast is included on these days). Next morning they take the bus to the Machu

Picchu entrance and rendezvous with the hikers at the ruins. If you decide not to do the hike we need to know prior to your departure in order to obtain train tickets. There is an additional fee for any changes made once Inca Trail permits are confirmed. This fee may vary depending on the changes that are made to your itinerary. Please advise your agent or G Adventures.

Also note that portions of the Inca Trail will be closed for general maintenance during the month of February each year. Also, closures may occur at various times throughout the year due to inclement weather or other conditions beyond our control. During these periods, any tour affected will hike the Lares Trek.

Overnight at Casa Andina Private Collection Cuzco or similar

#### **DAY 8 Aug 26 CUZCO (1B, 1D)**

Today is free to explore Cuzco, considered the mecca of Peru and rightly so. This beautiful colonial town offers much to the visitor with its nearby ruins, cobble-stoned streets, museums, churches and lively atmosphere. Among the more adventurous optional activities available in Cuzco are: horseback riding around archaeological sites such as Sacsayhuaman, Tambo Machay and Puca Pucara; white water rafting on the Urubamba River; and mountain biking down to the Sacred Valley, perhaps visiting an Inca ruin along the way.

Tonight we'll enjoy dinner at Limo Restaurant.

Estimated Travel Time: 4 hours

Overnight at Casa Andina Private Collection Cuzco or similar

### DAY 9-10 Aug 27-28 AMAZON JUNGLE (2B, 2L, 2D)

Fly to Puerto Maldonado and continue by motorized canoe to our comfortable, intimate and exclusive G Lodge Amazon. Enjoy guided excursions by expert naturalists to spot wildlife at nearby oxbow lakes, clay licks and treetop towers. Included rubber boots while at the lodge. Explore the jungle with local guides before flying to Lima for a final night out.

Approximate Distance: 320km Estimated Travel Time: 4 hours

## DAY 11 Aug 29 LIMA (1B,1D)

Fly to Lima via Cuzco for one final night on the town. We'll have dinner at Huaca Pucllana Restaurant.

Approximate Distance: 856km Estimated Travel Time: 6 hours

Overnight at Casa Andina Private Collection or similar

### **DAY 12 Aug 30 LIMA (1B)**

Transfer to the airport for your departure. Return daytime flight to Toronto

## **Inclusions**

- Superior Hotels (6 nts), camping (3 nts), G Lodge Amazon (2 nts).
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B= Breakfast, L= Lunch, D= Dinner)
- Activities as described (Guided tour of Cuzco and the Sacred Valley, 4-day Inca Trail with local guide, cook and porters or Cuzco stay with scenic train, Guided tour of Machu Picchu, 3-day excursion to G Adventures exclusive rainforest lodge)
- Arrival and departure group transfers
- Domestic flights as described in itinerary if applicable (Lim Cuz, Cuz Pem, Pem, Lim)
- Chief Experience Officer/ Guide (CEO) throughout
- Local Guides/ Local Representative assistance

 $\bullet$  Toronto-Lima-Toronto flights and related taxes/fees (offered on the Booking Form

## **Exclusions**

- Entrance fees not listed
- Applicable Tourist Visas
- Incidentals
- Insurance
- Tips or gratuities
- Beverages
- Meals not mentioned above
- Optional Tours or optional admissions

## Print Itinerary

# **Contact Details**

Karen DeBeer Verstraete Travel 300 - 14845 Yonge Street, Aurora, ON L4G 6H8 Phone: 416.969.8100 or 1.800.565.9267

Email: aurora@verstraete.com

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Base Camp - Groups Department

19 Charlotte Street, Toronto, Ontario M5V 2H5

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Itinerary

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Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.

Mark Twain

## Rates

Land Only/Tour (Includes taxes, surcharges and fees) \$3199 per person
\*Based on double occupancy
My Own Room (additional) - \$ 1389

Land/Tour/Airfare (Includes taxes, surcharges and fees) \$4369 per person
\*Based on double occupancy
My Own Room (additional) - \$ 1389

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## **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

## 1) Booking

Verstraete Travel requires a non refundable deposit of \$500 per person along with a completed Booking Form

#### 2) Final Payment

Final payment is due to Verstraete Travel no later than June 2, 2014

#### 3) Cancellation

Cancellation 60 days or more prior to departure - Loss of deposit Cancellation within 60 days of departure - 100%

Anyone with a pre-existing medical condition needs to have the following form completed by their physician and submitted to G adventures no less than 60 days prior to departure.

http://www.gadventures.com/medical\_form/download/

#### DOCUMENTATION/ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

It remains the responsibility of the traveler to ensure that proper documentation is in place. All countries require a valid passport (with a minimum 6 months validity). Contact your local embassy, or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements. Please refer to the following websites for information:

Canadians: http://www.voyage.gc.ca Americans: http://travel.state.gov

International: Please contact your local consulate or embassy

## TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel medical insurance including personal medical as well as emergency evacuation and repatriation up to US \$200,000 of coverage is compulsory. You will not be permitted to participate in the trip until your group leader/local representative has seen evidence of travel insurance coverage.

## **HEALTH / SAFETY AND SECURITY**

We recommend you contact your family physician, or your local travel clinic for the most up-to-date health information. Travelers should also carry a basic first-aid kit. It is your responsibility to know if you require any

vaccinations or precautions for the country that you are visiting. More information can be found at: http://www.istm.org or contact your country's Health or Foreign Affairs department.

Travelers must exercise common sense and caution at all times. Tourists should stick to set travel arrangements and avoid unknown areas. Always keep a photocopy of your passport, airline tickets and a record of your travelers' checks and credit card numbers separate from where you keep the originals and ideally with your emergency contact person back at home.

### A WORD ON SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL

We hope that one of the joys of travelling with G Adventures will be in meeting the local people and travelling to more remote areas. Unfortunately, tourism can radically alter what it was that inspired the industry in the first place. It is for this reason that we as travelers have a responsibility to minimize our impact on the people and environments we enjoy. Through our examples and attitudes we can ensure that our visits have minimal impact on the environment and that we foster positive cultural exchanges between our local hosts and ourselves. Please see the Responsible Travel section of our website for guidelines you can follow to help us in our efforts to conserve the places and cultures we love to visit, and to ensure similar experiences for future travelers. We thank you for your efforts in helping us act responsibly in our travels and hope that these guidelines assist you in having a wonderful trip!

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