



BOLIVIA/PERU

HIGHLANDS HERITAGE TOUR



DURATION: 13 days / 12 nights
SEASON: April through November
DEPARTURES: Guaranteed with a minimum of 4 and maximum of 12 participants
TRIP RATING: Easy/Moderate Cultural & Archaeological Tour, Grade (II) – This first-class soft adventures is an activity-oriented program which includes scenic overland travel, walking tours, and day hikes of 2-3 hours. It takes place at high elevations reaching a maximum of 12,900'. To allow for gradual adjustment to the altitude, pre-extensions to lower elevation cities are recommended.

2017 DATES: On request any week during the season for a minimum of 4 travelers

INTRODUCTION:

The ancestors of today's Andean dwellers developed a culture and belief system uniquely adapted to their world which reflected their deep connection to *Pachamama*, or the mother earth, and their respect for the towering, glacier-clad peaks which so strongly influenced their lives. Indian customs blend mystical traditions of the past with elements from the beliefs of later conquering peoples like the Spanish colonists, forming the heritage of native peoples in the Bolivian and Peruvian highlands today. Imbued with a magical beauty, the spirit of the Andes can still be seen in the smiling faces of the Aymara and Quechua farmers who inhabit these lands. It is witnessed in the colorful festivals and markets which continue to be held within the stone walls of the palaces and temples built by their forefathers. Join us on this inspiring, educational journey and experience the enduring cultural legacy of the Andes!

Accompanied by an expert local guide, we begin in La Paz, Bolivia (11,930'), where we walk the cobbled streets of the city's colonial section, tour colorful Indian markets and visit the cathedral and other historical monuments. The next three days are spent exploring the Altiplano. We visit the pre-Inca Tiahuanaco ruins, sleep in typical communities like Huatajata and Copacabana, meet the reed boat builders of Lake Titicaca and hike along ancient trails on the Sun Island and Charca Peninsula. Afterwards, we drive across the border and continue overland to Puno, Peru (12,555'), and then to Cusco (11,150'), former capital of the Incan Empire. Here we visit the archaeological sites of Pikillacta and Rumicolca to learn about the region's Huari and Inca cultures. We meet Andean weavers in Chinchero, visit the weekly Indian market, and walk through Cusco's Incan ruins such as the Coricancha, Sacsayhuaman and Tambo Machay. Following a tour of Sacred Valley sites in Pisac and Ollantaytambo, we focus on the jewel of Incan architecture, Machu Picchu. We board a train for a scenic ride through the mountains, where we thoroughly explore the ancient complex during our 2-day stay. Upon returning to Cusco we have time to explore this historic city, then we fly to Lima and enjoy a guided tour of the Colonial Center and the splendid Larco Herrera Museum before leaving for home.

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DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY:

DAY 01 (SUN): USA

Depart on an overnight flight to Bolivia's Altiplano capital, **La Paz**.

DAY 02 (MON): LA PAZ

An early morning arrival to La Paz allows us to enjoy the day's first golden light on the impressive summit of Illimani (21,260'), the highest mountain in the Cordillera Real range, which looms over the southeastern end of the city. Our friendly staff will meet us at El Alto. At 12,850' this is one of the highest commercial airports in the world. After collecting luggage and passing through customs, we drive 30' to the centrally located [Presidente Hotel](#), where we have the rest of the morning at leisure to begin acclimating to the city's breathtaking 11,930-foot elevation. This afternoon, we begin a guided tour of the city (combination of walking and private vehicle). Our first stop is the colorful Indian market to find handicrafts such as alpaca sweaters, leather goods, and Andean good luck charms. We then explore the steep cobbled streets of La Paz's colonial section, including the San Francisco and Murillo squares, and the Cathedral. A visit to the Archaeological Museum, where the gold ornaments found at Lake Titicaca are displayed, gives us insight into Bolivia's ancient cultures. Next, we drive to the **Valley of the Moon** at the lower end of the city and walk through bizarre formations of eroded clay and sandstone. Dinner is on your own this evening to try the hotel's Bella Vista restaurant on the 16th floor, featuring elegant and sophisticated cuisine and panoramic views of the city.

DAY 03 (TUE): TIAHUANACO / HUATAJATA

Following breakfast, we depart for a 45-mile drive across the Altiplano, or high plain, towards the southern end of Lake Titicaca (12,505'), the highest navigable lake in the world. With the towering peaks of Huayna Potosi (19,975') and Condoriri (18,557') as a backdrop, we enjoy expansive views as we approach the pre-Inca ceremonial center of **Tiahuanaco**, one of the oldest civilizations in the Americas (1,580 BC-1,000 AD). En route, we stop at Koani Pampa, where the Tiahuanaco culture developed the largest potato-growing center in the Andes using a technique called *Suka Kollo*. This system of cultivating plants in raised beds surrounded by water channels moderates the freezing nighttime temperatures. Tiahuanaco society excelled in agriculture, hydraulics, architecture, and medicine, as well as in social organization. Next, we join our guide for a walking tour of Tiahuanaco's main center, built from some of the most imposing megaliths found among the Pre-Columbian cultures of South America. Our visit includes: the ritual platform of the Kalasasaya Temple; the 52-foot high Acapana pyramid; the 45-ton Gate of the Sun, whose surface is adorned with carvings of celestial bodies, indicating that it may have been used as a calendar to predict solstices and equinoxes; and the Puma Punku site where several other massive stone slabs (some weighing up to 120 tons!) have been unearthed. Afterwards we drive to the village of Huatajata and check-in at the comfortable [Inca Utama Hotel & Spa](#) located on the southwestern shores of the lake. This afternoon, visit the hotel's Andean Roots Eco Village, the mud igloos and the mortuary towers of the Urus Chipayas. Meet the Limachi family, builders of the RA II and Tigris rafts, learn about the typical totora reed rafts similar to those that Thor Heyerdahl used in his famous "Ra" and "Kon Tiki" expeditions across the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans – vessels which are still built and occasionally used by the local Aymara fishermen. Take in an audiovisual 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 Kallawayaya, will bless visitors and answer questions by casting his sacred coca leaves. By night, opt for a visit of the Native Observatory Alajpacha to learn from the Aymara vision of the cosmos and watch the southern hemisphere's constellations. **Total driving time:** 3 hours. (B,L,D)

DAY 04 (WED): LAKE TITICACA / ISLAND OF THE SUN / COPACABANA

This morning an exciting Hydrofoil boat ride on Lake Titicaca allow us to enjoy the beauty of this highlands region. The Lake covers an area of 3,240 square miles and has an average depth of 350 feet, making it the largest lake in South America by volume of water. We navigate first to the mystical **Moon Island** to visit the Sun Virgins Temple *Iñak Uyu*. Here the most beautiful maidens were chosen to become the wives of the Inca nobles. The Virgins of the Sun were responsible for maintaining an eternal fire in devotion to their Inca God, Viracocha. Continue to the sacred **Island of the Sun**. According to Andean mythology, the Sun God Viracocha sent his son and daughter to earth to found the Inca Empire. Visit the Inca "Grand Stairs" and the Sacred Fountain, and taste the water believed to give eternal youth and happiness. After a short walk, lunch is at the Uma Kollu archaeological Restaurant with panoramic views of the Lake. After a brief visit of a small handicraft market, continue cruising on Lake Titicaca. Afternoon arrival in the pleasant port town of **Copacabana** (12,600'). This area has been a pilgrimage center since it was established by the Incas in honor of the Sun and his first children. In town we tour The Basilica, the shrine and the Dark Indian Virgin of the Lake – a statue of the Virgin Mary sculpted by a native craftsman in 1576. Believed to work miracles, this is one of the most

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important pilgrimage destinations in Bolivia. Accommodations tonight are at the [Rosario Titicaca Hotel](#) where we can later enjoy the sunset from the hotel's garden patio. Dinner is on your own this evening to savor the hotel's restaurant local and international cuisine. (B,L)

DAY 05 (THU): COPACABANA / PUNO

Leaving **Copacabana**, we continue our overland journey along Lake Titicaca's southern shores. The lake's name has several translations from the Indian language, many of which refer to the puma, a sacred animal in both the Tiahuanaco and Inca cultures. Thus, Titicaca is often called the Lake of the Puma. After passing through the border into Peru, we meet our Peruvian guide and drive to the Charca Peninsula where we stop for a short, optional hike following a trail that winds along the hills above the lake and overlooks small fishing settlements. We also visit some of the typical communities en route such as Juli, where we see some of the area's finest religious architecture, and Chucuito, where we stop at the unusual Inca *Fertility Temple* before continuing on to **Puno** (12,555'), Peru's lake port city. Often called a folkloric center, Puno is famous for its traditional dances of which there are more than 100 variations. We arrive in the early afternoon in time to embark on a 30-minute boat ride to visit one of the intriguing **floating Uros Islands**, made entirely from cork-like piles of *totora* reeds by the Uros people. These inhabitants also use the reeds as a source of food, to build their homes, handicrafts, and as animal feed! Later, back on the mainland, we check in to the [Libertador Hotel](#) located on Isla Esteves, with commanding views of the lake. Dinner is on your own tonight. **Total driving time:** 4 hours. (B,L)

DAY 06 (FRI): PUNO / CUSCO

We depart early this morning as we drive from Puno to Cusco (7 hours). We'll make a series of stops to see the highlights en route. First is a visit to the round Sillustani Burial Towers, built in the highlands by the Aymara-speaking Colla tribe overlooking Lake Umayo. The exquisite stonework on these tombs is fascinating, showing influences of both the Tiahuanaco and Inca cultures. Afterwards, we visit the nearby Jatuncolla community where we learn about the local Andean lifestyle. Continuing over La Raya Pass (14,175') and descending into warm valleys, we'll stop to see the pre-Inca archaeological site of **Pikillacta**. Overlooking Lake Muina, this city, along with Cusco, comprise the two major prehistoric centers in the Cusco valley. Pikillacta was constructed as a provincial capital of the Huari Empire, which ruled most of highland Peru between 600-1000 A.D. Journey through ruins of ancient cultures, from a royal Inca estate built by Huascar, the last of the Inca rulers, to Rumicolca, the Inca gate built over Huari foundations, an impressive sight from the highway. We also stop to visit **Andahuaylillas** church, one of the finest examples of Peruvian colonial art. Once in Cusco, (11,150'), the former capital of the Inca Empire, we check in to the centric and historic [Libertador Palacio del Inka Hotel](#). Dinner is on your own to try some of the gourmet restaurants in town that offer *Novo Andino* cuisine. (B,L)

DAY 07 (SAT): CUSCO

The morning is unstructured to allow for personal explorations of **Cusco**, with lunch on your own. This afternoon we enjoy an extensive guided tour of this fascinating city. Our visit includes impressive sites as: *Coricancha*, the Inca's Sun Temple whose flawless stonework is some of the finest we encounter; the main square and cathedral, many of whose stones were taken from nearby Inca palaces; and the Inca walls along *Hatunrumiyoc Street*, which is named for the 12-angled stone clearly visible in the remaining walls of what was Inca Roca's palace. In the surrounding hills, we'll explore the ruins of *Sacsayhuaman*, a spectacular hilltop complex with sweeping views of the Cusco valley, and *Tambo Machay*, whose ceremonial baths are fed by clear, cool springs that continue to flow 500 years after they were built. We return to the [Libertador Palacio del Inka Hotel](#), the restored palace of the first governor of Peru, Francisco Pizarro, built over the Inca's *Aclla Huasi* foundation. Later on, join your guide for a congenial dinner and pisco sour, a traditional Peruvian drink at the nearby Casa Qorikancha restaurant. (B,D)

DAY 08 (SUN): CHINCHERO

A drive through the highlands treats us to panoramic views of the snow-capped Urubamba range including Mount Veronica and Pitusiray – both over 18,000 feet. In **Chincho** (12,335'), we catch the start of the weekly market as produce vendors set up their goods. Here we can observe as Indians from neighboring communities and farms follow the age-old traditional barter system of *trueque* among themselves. We also observe a massive Inca wall with ten trapezoidal niches, which dominates the village's main square, and visit the colonial church. After walking through the Inca ruins at Yupanqui's palace, we join a local community in their courtyard for an overview of the Andean weaving process. Wool is carded, spun, and dyed to create ponchos, belts (*fajas*), and shawls (*mantas*). Afterwards we descend into the **Sacred Valley of the Incas**, stopping en route to see the Inca Salt Mines. During a buffet-style lunch at Wayra restaurant with a special Paso Fino horse show, we can sample a variety of native delicacies including:

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several types of potatoes; tubers such as oca, quinoa, and fava beans; and perhaps try a taste of *cuy*, a savory meat roasted with a variety of herbs. Near the town of Urubamba (9,435'), we check-in to the charming and spacious Andean hacienda-style [Sol y Luna Lodge & Spa](#). The remainder of the afternoon is at leisure. Dinner is included this evening at the hotel's Killa Wasi restaurant. (B,L,D)

DAY 09 (MON): SACRED VALLEY

After breakfast, we drive along the Sacred Valley following a winding road that provides superb views out over the valley. We see the ancient agricultural terraces that run throughout the rich bottom lands and begin to understand why this was considered the breadbasket of the empire. Our first stop is the town of **Pisac** (9,708'), where we drive up to the impressive Inca ruins perched spectacularly on a ridge overlooking the town and surrounding countryside. Our guided walking tour (about 2 miles total) follows a wide, but exposed, stone-paved trail high above the valley. The excursion takes us through the main sections of the site including the religious center of the complex, *Intihuatana*, or Hitching Post of the Sun. As we walk, we observe the agricultural terraces which were built to follow the aesthetic contours of the hillside rising from the floor of the Urubamba River valley. Afterwards, we drive past burial tombs and farms, which grow barley, wheat, corn and quinoa, to the town of **Ollantaytambo**. We visit the main plaza and some of the side streets of this unique community which still retains the original street plan and foundations designed by the Incas. Then, we reach the base of the impressive sun temple and return to the peaceful comforts of the [Sol y Luna Lodge & Spa](#) to relax and stroll through their lovely gardens. (B,L)

DAY 10 (TUE): MACHU PICCHU

We head back to Ollantaytambo early this morning to catch the Vistadome train for the 1.5 hour ride to Machu Picchu town (formerly Aguas Calientes). Ascending to **Machu Picchu** (7,874') by bus, we join our expert guide for a private tour of this superb archaeological site. Perched atop a crest high above the meandering Urubamba River and surrounded by rugged, green Andean hillsides, Machu Picchu stands as more than just the jewel of Inca architecture. It represents the perfect union of human engineering and the natural environment, a city in harmony with its surroundings. Never reached by the Spanish, this magical place was brought to the world's attention in 1911 by the American historian, Hiram Bingham. Our explorations of *The Lost City of the Incas* include all of the various sectors of the ruins: the industrial area; the Temple of the Sun and the Royal Tomb; the ceremonial water fountains and baths; and the Sacred Plazas. There should be time for a 30-minute walk to the Inca Drawbridge. We stay at the charming [Inkaterra Machu Picchu Hotel](#) situated in 12 acres of cloud forest garden along the Urubamba River in town. Relish a gourmet dinner at Inkaterra this evening. (B,L,D)

DAY 11 (WED): MACHU PICCHU / CUSCO

Rising early, those that wish to may head to the ruins to catch the early morning light as the sun rises over the mountains to strike the Sacred City. Later, there are several optional group activities to choose from, in and around **Machu Picchu**. At 8,860' **Huayna Picchu**, or Young Peak, looms in the background over the citadel. More active group members may choose to climb the very steep, exposed trail that ends at the ruins on top for an amazing, bird's-eye view or take the 1.5 hour hike up and downhill through the forest that ends at the partially excavated *Temple of the Moon*. As the day is flexible, those who prefer may simply choose their favorite spot to meditate, photograph, or continue their personal explorations. No amount of contemplation in this mysterious sanctuary reveals all its secrets, where reality surpasses imagination. We meet for lunch at the Sumaq restaurant by the river (one of the finest in town) before catching the Vistadome train for the scenic 1.5 -hour ride back to Ollantaytambo. Tracing the course of the Urubamba River, we wind our way past Incan terraces and Quechua communities as we leave the lush cloud forests and make our way back to the highlands. Reception upon arrival and transfer by private vehicle to **Cusco** (11,150') and the familiar [Libertador Palacio del Inka Hotel](#) for the night. Dinner is on your own this evening. (B,L)

DAY 12 (THU): CUSCO / LIMA / USA

The morning is at leisure to explore Cusco's colorful San Pedro market and the many side-street craft shops, museums and plazas. We are picked up at the hotel at noon for the drive to the airport in **Cusco** to catch the flight back to **Lima**. Upon arrival we join our local guide for a private tour of colonial Lima and the fascinating Larco Herrera Museum, which houses an extensive collection of pre-Columbian artifacts. In 1988, UNESCO declared the historic center of Lima a World Heritage Site for its originality and variety of Spanish colonial monuments. Named the "City of Kings", Lima was founded by the Spanish conquistador Francisco Pizarro in 1535. Lunch and dinner are on your own to try a typical seafood meal such as ceviche at one of the several gourmet restaurants in Miraflores. Participants leaving tonight have a return transfer to the airport this evening. (B)

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DAY 13 (FRI): USA

Arrive in the US this morning and make onward connections home.

NOTES ON THE ITINERARY: Although we do our best to adhere to the above schedule, this itinerary is subject to change for numerous reasons beyond our control including group, weather, trail/road/lake conditions and flight delays or train/plane schedules, etc. Additionally, the actual day-by-day activities in this program are subject to change to allow for the greatest opportunity to participate in the local markets, events or festivals that coincide with the various departures. Some activities may be shortened or eliminated, while others may be added as the schedule allows. Driving distances and altitudes are approximate, and times indicated are NET, not including lunch break, rest stops, time to explore the ruins or villages, etc. This program is suitable for healthy, fit participants age 7 and up. The Huayna Picchu ascent is only recommended for kids age 12 and older. On **Day 07** if there are flights available from Juliaca to Cusco, we will take the most convenient flight and drive 45 minutes eastward from Cusco to visit Pikillacta and Andahuaylillas.

2017 LAND COST: \$6,295 p.p.d. (4-6 participants)
 \$5,855 p.p.d. (7-12 participants)
 \$1,740 Single Supplement

p.p.d.= per person based on double or triple occupancy

☀ **2017 INTI RAYMI DEPARTURE - JUNE 17-30 (14 days/13 nights):**

A suggested June 17 departure is 1 day longer, starting on Saturday rather than Sunday, in order to incorporate the fabulous Inti Raymi Celebration on June 24 in Cusco. The schedule of activities is as follows:

JUN 17-23: As described on pages 2-3 for DAYS 01-07.

JUN 24 (SAT): This is the principal day of the **Inti Raymi Festival**, the greatest of all Inca celebrations, held each year on June 24 to worship Apu Inti Tayta, or the Sun God—the source of life in the Andes. The current event is a re-enactment of the original pageantry and is possibly one of the most spectacular Andean festivals in South America with parades, processions, dance contests and folk music culminating in the main ceremonial event. We join our local guide after breakfast and head first to the Coricancha, or Sun Temple, where the Inca (a local resident selected to play this role), starts the celebrations with an invocation. Dancers and musicians offer their praises to Inti Tayta. Then the Inca and his procession go to the main square where we witness the rite of coca in which the future of the Empire is made known through a reading of this sacred leaf. Afterwards, we continue up to the Sacsayhuaman ruins where we watch as the Inca relights the sacred fire and offers sacrifices to the sun. Overnight at **Libertador Hotel**. (B,L)

JUN 25-30: As described on pages 4-5 for DAYS 09-13.

2017 INTI RAYMI LAND COST: \$6,835 p.p.d. (4-6 participants)
 \$6,345 p.p.d. (7-12 participants)
 \$1,970 Single Supplement

p.p.d.= per person based on double or triple occupancy

HOTEL UPGRADE: We can reserve the historic and luxurious [Monasterio Hotel](#) in Cusco, the lovely [Libertador Tambo del Inka](#) or [Belmond Rio Sagrado](#) in the Sacred Valley, the exclusive [Sanctuary Lodge](#) adjacent to Machu Picchu and the 5-star [Miraflores Park Hotel](#) in Lima if you are staying longer in the city for an additional fee. Due to high demand these reservations are recommended at least 4-5 months in advance. Upgrades are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. Please contact our office for details.

EARLY ARRIVAL TO LA PAZ: Guests with an extra day of vacation time are strongly encouraged to arrive a day early to La Paz and stay at the DM Andino Hotel, located just 18 miles or 40 minutes from La Paz in the Mecapaca Valley at an elevation of 9,185'. Not only does this provide a head start in acclimating to the high elevation, but it also allows more time to explore this beautiful valley south of the city and relax after an overnight flight. You'll also enjoy

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more time in the city of La Paz discovering its plazas and museums, and looking for great shopping opportunities.

PRE-EXTENSION TO SUCRE: For those in need of a longer acclimatization process to the elevations of La Paz (11,930'), we recommend a 3 day/2 night pre-extension to the colonial city of Sucre (9,215'). Renowned for its lovely whitewashed facades and pleasant climate, Sucre is a fun and peaceful place to take in a variety of markets, indigenous cultures, and a slice of local life in Bolivia. Please contact your Southwind Travel Consultant for details.

SERVICES INCLUDED:

- Comprehensive **pre-departure planning packet** and expert travel advice.
- All in-country transfers as scheduled (transfers on different days are additional). **Ground transportation in spacious and comfortable private vehicles** with professional drivers, unless noted as seat-in-car. In this latter case, Southwind guests will join with other travelers.
- Boat, catamaran and hydrofoil transportation where applicable on a seat-in-boat basis.
- **First-class round trip Vistadome or similar train** from Ollantaytambo to Machu Picchu town. Machu Picchu bus service to/from town and the archaeological sanctuary.
- Local and return flight reconfirmation, in-country airport check-in and luggage assistance.
- All accommodations in **First-Class (4-5 star) hotels** as listed (or at similar hotels, the best available in smaller towns) on a shared basis with private bath. Double beds for couples (king/queen) can be requested in advance, but cannot be guaranteed, as most hotels offer few rooms with double beds.
- Single Supplement provides single room accommodations in all hotels. Due to the limited number of rooms at the small hotels in Cusco and Machu Picchu, there is a maximum of 2 singles allowed per group. If you require single accommodations, we recommend advanced reservations.
- All meals indicated on the itinerary (B=breakfast; L=lunch; D=dinner). **Vegetarian diets accommodated on request** (advance notification required). For other diets, consult your travel specialist before making a reservation.
- All guided tours (as listed) conducted on a private basis (except the Inti Raymi Festival, where other Southwind travelers from another group may join for the same tour) by knowledgeable, English-speaking local guides (includes applicable entrance fees).
- A local English-speaking guide/escort is provided for the La Paz/Copacabana segment (Days 02-05), Puno/Lake Titicaca (Days 05-06), and the Cusco/Machu Picchu visit (Days 06-12).

NOT INCLUDED:

- US Domestic, International flights, nor local flights within Bolivia or Peru
- Local Peruvian airport departure taxes (for USA and Canadian travelers these taxes are included in the airfare).
- Visa for entry to Bolivia (current cost \$135).
- Nine (9) meals at about \$25-40 each.
- Tours or other services not listed on the itinerary.
- Alcoholic beverages, nor items of a personal nature; such as clothing, equipment, laundry and phone calls.
- Tips to the local staff.
- Expenses incurred in preparing for this program such as, but not limited to, non-refundable airline tickets or traveler's insurance, and additional expenses resulting from flight delays, schedule changes, cancellations, or missed connections.

TRAVEL INSURANCE: We strongly recommend purchasing coverage to protect your trip investment. Travel insurance is important in case of unexpected events prior to departure causing the need to cancel or change your dates. Weather, geologic events, local strikes, personal injury/illness for you, your traveling companion or family members, could require itinerary interruption or changes. Missed connections, delayed arrival, lost/delayed baggage or the need for medical attention or evacuation are also reasons why coverage is important. Southwind offers several plans through Travel Insured International (TII) to fit your budget and coverage amount. We recommend TII's *Worldwide Trip Protector* which offers a good value and **free coverage for kids 17/under traveling with a related adult**. If you, your traveling companion or a family member has a pre-existing medical condition, you can still receive coverage if a recurrence of the condition forces you to cancel your trip (some restrictions apply and plan purchase needs to be done **within 21 days of your deposit date**). **Please call our office for a quote** or to discuss your insurance options. See our [Travel Insurance](#) page to learn more and purchase a plan.

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WEATHER: Much of this trip takes place in mountainous regions where the weather changes suddenly. The best policy for enjoying this capricious weather is to be prepared for all possibilities ranging from intense sunshine to rain, cold, wind and/or snow. Andean/Altiplano nights are cold (averaging about 34-40°F) while the days are pleasantly warm (averaging 60-70° F in the sunshine). On overcast days daytime highs may only be in the mid-50's and you'll notice a distinct difference in temperature (possibly as much as 15°F) between the sunny side of the street and the shady side, so a sweater or jacket should always be carried. Typically the weather during the Andean dry season, which lasts from May to November, is clear, dry, and cool. The months of June, July and August can be expected to be the coldest, with nighttime temperatures possibly falling to as low as 28°F. During the transitional months of May and October/November we may experience more variable weather patterns with a general buildup of afternoon clouds and rain (or hail) showers. Rain all day is uncommon but is possible, even during the dry season.

ANDEAN GUIDES: William Flores- A native of La Paz and cultural specialist, William has been leading tour groups on a variety of cultural and spiritual journeys throughout Bolivia. He combines his knowledge and love of his Aymara and Quechua heritage with the joy of sharing it with others. A kinder more attentive and knowledgeable guide is hard to find!

Rosa Garcia - A mature and enthusiastic Peruvian guide with over 20 years of experience, Rosa has extensive knowledge of the Inca culture and history. She holds a degree in tourism and speaks fluent English, and over the years she has received excellent comments from our Southwind travelers.

Mauricio Suarez, Romulo Lizarraga & Ronny Peña, each with a minimum of 5 years experience leading tours in the southern Andes of Bolivia and Peru, these native bilingual guides are also among the fine professionals working with our groups.

ESTIMATED AIRFARE: The Land Cost for this trip DOES NOT INCLUDE international or in-country flights. Round-trip airfare from Miami to La Paz is about \$700-\$1,000 per person. We recommend flying into La Paz and out of Lima. American Airlines is currently the only US carrier offering non-stop service to La Paz from Miami; the return is via Santa Cruz, Bolivia. United, Delta and LAN fly via Lima to La Paz (may require an extra night in Lima). The Cusco-Lima flight is approximately \$200 per person. Upon receipt of your deposit, Southwind will send you more information about booking your flights to match your land itinerary. We'll need your flight schedule within 45 days of your departure to arrange your transfers.

HOW TO SIGN UP: Please complete Southwind's [Trip Reservation eForm](#). There are fields for up to 4 travelers per form with the same address. Upon receipt, your Travel Consultant will send you a SmartPay link **to pay your \$1,000 per person deposit** by any major credit card. If you prefer, you can also call us at 1-800-377-9463 to make payment arrangements by phone or send a check. You will receive confirmation of your deposit.

Due to the popularity of Lake Titicaca and Machu Picchu, we recommend making reservations at least 4 months in advance. Once your trip is guaranteed to operate, you will receive comprehensive pre-departure planning documents by email.

Land Balance: Final payment is due at 90 days by Visa, Mastercard, Discover, American Express or check. You will receive a trip invoice indicating your balance due. Provided services and space are available, reservations can be accepted up to 30 days before departure.

Cancellation Fees and other policies are outlined under the current [Terms & Conditions](#) on Southwind's website.

17-Hht.May16

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