

This year, travel with The Planetary Society as we explore:

PERU & MACHU PICCHU OF THE INCAS

Discover archaeological sites & Inca astronomy

September 27 - October 4, 2020 & November 20 - 27, 2020

Dear Friends:

We invite you to join us and discover the fantastic Inca world of Peru!

Seeing Machu Picchu and exploring the extraordinary cultural and archaeological wonders of Peru is certainly a lifetime experience. We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to go there.

With leadership by excellent Peru guides, you will visit the heart of the Inca Empire at Cusco and explore spectacular landscapes of the Andes.

See the crown jewel of archaeology in the Americas, Machu Picchu, plus the Inca sites of Maras and Moray, and Sacsayhuaman near Cusco.

Learn about the fascinating Inca relationship to the Sun and the Milky Way, and designs of buildings to capture the first rays of the Summer Solstice sun!

The intricate stone architecture of the Incas is breathtaking, as are the llamas, and colorful weavings.

Discover the village of Chinchero, surrounded by high Andean peaks, and enjoy a festive folkloric show and dinner in Cuzco!



We hope you will join this trip of a lifetime!

Sincerely,

Bill Nye

Bill Nye
The Science Guy®
CEO



THE PLANETARY
SOCIETY

Peru Itinerary

Day 1 Miami to Lima, Peru

Fly from Miami to Lima, Peru, arriving in the evening. Transfer to the *Lima Novotel Hotel* (2 nights).

Day 2 Lima – World Heritage Site

This morning, we will explore the vibrant capital city of Peru, Lima, including its 16th century cathedral and Plaza de Armas, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We will continue to one of the fascinating museums of Lima, which explores the rich heritage of the Inca, the pre-Inca Moche Civilisation, and the Spanish heritage of Peru. Afternoon at leisure. (B)

Day 3 Lima to Cusco – World Heritage Site

We will transfer to the airport this morning and take a flight to the Inca city Cusco, which is situated in a scenic valley at 3,400 m in the Andes. It was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1983. Our visit to Cusco will begin with a city tour including the archaeological site of Sacsayhuaman, which was a fortress of an early pre-Inca culture.

We will then drive through spectacular Andean scenery to the Sacred Valley and Ollantaitambo. Ollantaitambo may have protected one end of a route to the rainforest in the Peruvian Amazon. It is built on top of original Inca foundations and is the best surviving example of Inca town planning. *Ollantaitambo Hotel* (B,L)

Day 4 Machu Picchu – World Heritage Site

Today, we will learn how Yale archaeologist Hiram Bingham slowly worked his way through the Andes, following stories and the trail of artifacts to discover the magnificent mountaintop site of Machu Picchu in 1911. (The site was never



found by the Spanish during their conquest.) Machu Picchu has hundreds of dwellings, temples, water fountains, astronomical platforms, and terraces for agriculture, with the sacred peak of Huayna Picchu towering above it.



Occupied since the early 1400's, legends and myths indicate that Machu Picchu was a sacred place from a far earlier time. High above the Urubamba River, the ruins include palaces, baths, temples, storage rooms, and about 150 houses. We will explore the site and enjoy the dramatic perspective of the Andes, the plunging drop to the Urubamba River, and the fascinating archaeological complex of Machu Picchu itself. The Intihuatana ("Hitching Post of the Sun") is a precise indicator of the date of the two equinoxes. *Inti Punku Hotel*. (B,L)

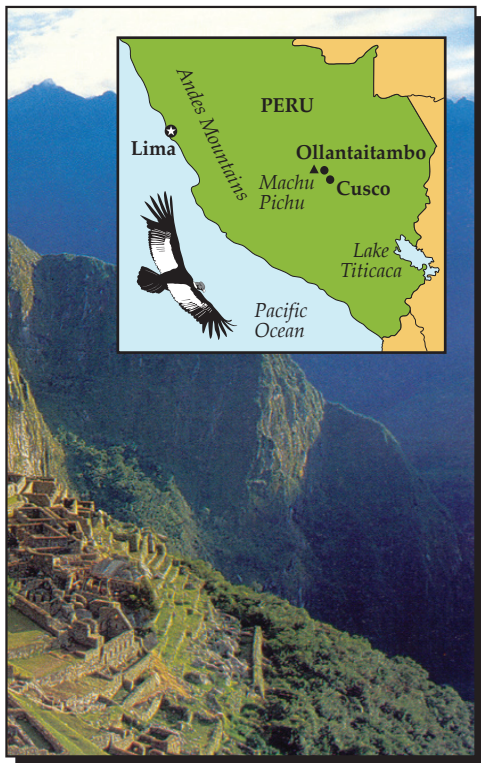
Day 5 Maras, Moray, & Chincheros

We will take the train back to Ollantaitambo this morning and will then explore the fascinating Inca sites of Maras and Moray.

We will stop to see the pre-Inca salt ponds of Maras (which are still in use today). Salt has been obtained here for hundreds of



The Sun Temple at Summer Solstice. Photo courtesy of Dr. Steven R. Gullberg



year by evaporating salty water from a local subterranean stream.

We will also see the fascinating Moray archaeological site which consists of several terraced circular depressions, with an irrigation system, which may have been used for agriculture.

Our next visit will be to the renowned weaving community of Chincheros, which also has a colorful market. You'll have an opportunity to see many weavers at work and to have a picnic lunch, surrounded by stunning Andean peaks.

Return drive to the *Novotel Cusco Hotel* (2 nights). (B,L)

Day 6 Cusco

Today you will be at leisure to explore the fascinating inca community of Cusco. The first Spanish

arrived in 1533 and buildings thereafter in Cusco had a mixed Spanish and Inca indigenous architecture. Many buildings in Cusco are built on Inca foundations which we can see today. The Spanish replaced indigenous temples with Catholic churches and convents, a cathedral, and university. An earthquake in 1950 exposed the Inca granite walls of the Koricancha Temple. We'll celebrate our journey this evening with a special dinner and folkloric show. (B,D)

Days 7 & 8 Lima to Home

Transfer to the airport for our return flights to Lima and the USA, arriving Miami in the morning of Day 8.

Responsibility: A full statement of responsibility is available. Please ask, (800) 252-4910

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Reservations

#1595/1590

Yes! I/We want to join the **Peru and Machu Picchu of the Incas Expedition, ____ Sept. 27 - Oct. 4, 2020 or ____ Nov. 20-27, 2020**, offered by **The Planetary Society and Betchart Expeditions Inc.** Please reserve ____ space(s) on the expedition. As a deposit, I/we have enclosed a check for \$____ (\$500 per person), payable to Betchart Expeditions Inc. Trust Account.

Name(s): _____ Age ____ Sex ____

____ Age ____ Sex ____

Address: _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Phone: Home (____) _____

Work (____) _____

Email: _____

Citizenship: ____ USA ____ Canada Other: _____

Member: ____ Planetary Society ____ AAAS ____ Sigma Xi ____ ACS

Accommodations Preference:

____ Twin ____ Single ____ Twin Share ____ with a friend or
____ assign a roommate
____ Nonsmoker ____ Smoker

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

**Please Mail To: Peru & Machu Picchu 2020
Betchart Expeditions Inc.
17050 Montebello Road, Cupertino, CA 95014-5435**

Costs & Conditions

Trip Fee: \$2,995 per person twin share plus air fare of \$1,495 from Miami to Peru, round trip, including Peru in-tour flights.

Expedition Fee Includes:

Land transport; group airport transfers; accommodations twin share; meals as indicated; entrance fees; tips to local guides and drivers; baggage handling, leadership, administration.

Expedition Fee Does Not Include:

Air fare (quoted separately); independent transfers; some meals; gratuity to Cusco leader; personal items such as laundry, phone calls, alcoholic beverages, snacks; personal insurance.

What to Expect:

This expedition is for travelers who would enjoy exploring Peru and discovering the timeless archaeological wonders of Peru. We will fly from Lima to the fascinating Inca city of Cusco to explore the heart of



the Inca Empire, plus Ollantaitambo, Maras, Moray, and Machu Picchu. Leading the expedition will be excellent local guides

Weather will be pleasant and summery with temperatures in the 80s in the lowlands and spring-like in Cusco, with some chance of rain. The expedition will be a tremendous experience for travelers with an appetite for adventure who would like to see fascinating Inca sites of Peru including Machu Picchu, and learn about the links between astronomy and the Inca way of life. (No smoking in vehicles, during lectures, or meals please.)

Air Fare & Airline

FOR RESERVATIONS

Please mail the completed reservation form with a deposit check for \$500 per person to:

Betchart Expeditions Inc.

17050 Montebello Road

Cupertino, CA 95014-5435

Telephone (800) 252-4910 (USA)

or (408) 252-4910 (International)

Fax: (408) 252-1444

Email: BetchartApril@gmail.com

Final payment is due 90 days before departure

Look on the Web: www.betchartexpeditions.com

Ticketing:

Air fare quoted is based on a group fare from Miami to Lima, round trip, plus in-tour flights. All air bookings will be handled by Betchart Expeditions Inc. AIR FARES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE UNTIL TICKETED.

Accommodations:

Are in comfortable first class hotels, twin share with private bath. All hotels are well situated for visiting museums, restaurants, and other sights. Singles are \$695 additional.

Reservations, Deposits, & Payments:

Please mail a deposit of \$500 per person with the completed reservation form to:

Peru and Machu Picchu 2020

Betchart Expeditions Inc.

17050 Montebello Road

Cupertino, CA 95014-5435

The balance is due 90 days before departure.

Questions: Please call **April at Betchart Expeditions Inc.**

Telephone: (800) 252 4910 or (408) 252 4910

Fax: (408) 252 1444

Email: BetchartApril@gmail.com

Cancellations & Refunds:

The initial deposit is refundable up to 90 days before departure less a handling fee of \$100 per person. There is no refund after the 90-day period unless your place is resold, then only the \$100 per person handling fee is withheld. There are no refunds for unused meals or other expedition features.

Argentina Eclipse December 8-19, 2020



Total Solar Eclipse - Dec. 14, 2020

Explore the magnificence of Argentina, from the premiere city of Buenos Aires and historic La Plata to San Martín de los Andes, and the thundering wonder of Iguazú Falls. View the Total Solar Eclipse just north of San Martín de los Andes. \$5,995 pp twin share + air + ext.

For a detailed brochure, contact: info@betchartexpeditions.com

Phone 800-252-4910 USA • 408-252-4910 Int'l