



All Travel, All the Time



EXPLORATIONS

A CONNECTION TO CULTURE

Join Star-Light Travel, LeAnn & Greg Starner

**Machu Picchu & Galapagos Wonders ~
Featuring a 4-Night Cruise ~ with 3-Night Peruvian
Amazon Pre-Tour Extension ~ Preliminary Itinerary
January 2028**

Highlights...Pisac Market • Ollantaytambo Ruins • Cooking Class • Pablo Seminario Ceramic Studio • Quechua Community Visit & Lunch • Machu Picchu • "Middle of the World" • 4-Night Galápagos Cruise

Day 1: Lima, Peru

Your extension begins with an overnight stay in Lima.

Day 2: Lima – Puerto Maldonado – Peruvian Amazon Basin

Fly from Lima to the Puerto Maldonado airport where you meet your naturalist guide. Board a boat and transfer up the Madre de Dios River to the Inkaterra Hacienda Concepción Lodge. After a welcome lunch, take a walk through the Concepción trails and learn about the rainforest's composition, its uses, the human impact and its relevance to the world climate. At dusk, once again take to the water on a motorized canoe. Your evening excursion will teach you about the river's ecosystem, Amazonian creeks, nocturnal animals' behavior and the southern sky's constellations. Then, you'll enjoy a delightful dinner in the Casa Grande's dining room. (B, L, D)

Day 3: Tambopata National Reserve - Lake Sandoval

After an early breakfast, your naturalist guide will lead you on a trek through Tambopata National Reserve. Arrive at pristine Lake Sandoval and board a dugout wooden canoe. Glide along taking in your peaceful surroundings. Keep an eye out for the endangered giant river otter, blue and yellow macaw, red howler monkey, black caiman, and one of the world's biggest fresh water scaled fish, the paiche. After lunch, the Inkaterra canopy walkway awaits. Begin at the Interpretation Center to learn about the project. Then ascend 98 feet in the air and cross a series of hanging bridges that connect the treetops, taking in the breathtaking panoramas and discovering the wildlife that surrounds you.

This evening, explore the Amazon rainforest by moonlight and listen to the unique nocturnal sounds of the rainforest. Your day concludes with a wonderful dinner. (B, L, D)

Day 4: Puerto Maldonado - Lima

After breakfast, take a scenic boat ride back to Puerto Maldonado and transfer to the airport where you await your flight back to Lima, the Peruvian capital. (B) Touch down in Lima, the "City of Kings." Across ancient lands and earthly legends, experience the mysticism of the Peruvian Andes.

Day 5: Lima

Become fascinated by Lima's history on a tour through the historic center, a designated UNESCO World Heritage site, where the elegant Cathedral at Plaza de Armas stands out among the colonial architecture. Visit the former home of a conquistador and feel the surge of colonial and republican life. Enjoy some free time this afternoon to discover Lima on your own. Get to know new friends over a menu of artful Peruvian dishes at a welcome dinner. Today breakfast and dinner will be included.

Day 6: Lima – Cuzco – Sacred Valley

Fly over the Andes on your way to Cuzco – the heart of the Inca civilization. Follow the trails of this Andean paradise with a local guide to the Sacred Valley of the Incas. Stop in Pisac village and browse a handicraft market full of vibrant colors. Discover why Peru has consistently been named the world's top food travel destination during a fun filled interactive cooking class where you will learn how to master ceviche and pisco sours. Settle into your hotel nestled in the heart of the Sacred Valley and relax in the calming surround of the Andes. Today breakfast and dinner will be included.

Day 7: Sacred Valley – Ollantaytambo – Sacred Valley

Visit the terraced ruins of Ollantaytambo, the only Incan settlement that has remained continually inhabited since its inception. At the ceramic studio of artist Pablo Seminario, see how he utilizes the intricate techniques inspired by ancient Peruvian cultures. Deep dive into the cultures of modern Andean people and experience an Impact Moment as you mingle with a nearby community. Thanks to their effort and teamwork, tourism has become additional income for agriculture which has positively impacted their quality of life. Learn traditional methods of growing, harvesting and weaving, listen to their music and learn their dances before enjoying a farm-to-table meal of local specialties. Today breakfast and lunch will be included.

Day 8: Sacred Valley – Machu Picchu

Prepare for an early morning departure as you hop aboard your train to Machu Picchu, where views of the Andes astound through panoramic windows as you climb toward the "Lost City of the Incas." Uncover the mysteries of this "Lost City" at the meeting point between the Peruvian Andes and the Amazon Basin. Wrapped inside a semitropical jungle and hidden by mountains, Machu Picchu or La Ciudadela, (the Citadel), is one of the world's most spectacular archaeological sites. Today breakfast will be included.

Day 9: Machu Picchu - Cuzco

Enjoy some leisure time this morning. You may choose an optional excursion to visit Machu Picchu for a second time this morning, or maybe you'll explore the local markets before boarding your train back to the Sacred Valley. Continue to Cuzco and feel the local culture at a special community dining experience. Today breakfast and dinner will be included.

Day 10: Cuzco

This morning, it's your choice! Travel above the city to discover the Incan ruins of Sacsayhuamán Fortress OR embark on a walking tour through the enchanting streets of Cuzco, going off the beaten path and uncovering the city's best kept secrets. After, come together for a tour of Cuzco, visiting the San Pedro Market, the Koricancha Temple, the central Plaza de Armas, and the Cuzco Cathedral. The rest of the afternoon is yours. This evening, enjoy flexible dining at a popular local restaurant featuring the local flavors of Cuzco. Today breakfast and dinner will be included.

Day 11: Cuzco - Quito, Ecuador

This morning, fly to Ecuador's stunning capital city – Quito, your home for the next two nights. An intersection of mountains and colonial architecture, this city is a UNESCO World Heritage site full of lively culture and vibrant history. Today breakfast will be included.

Day 12: Quito

Today, tour the Presidential Palace in Quito's colonial center. After lunch, stand at the "Middle of the World," situated between two hemispheres, at the Equatorial Line Monument and Museum. Spend the rest of the day at leisure. Today breakfast and lunch will be included.

Day 13: Quito - San Cristóbal, Galápagos – Embark Ship

Fly to a hub of the spectacular Galápagos Archipelago, San Cristóbal! Launch your ecoadventure aboard the M/Y Coral II,* an exclusive yacht that serves as your home for the next four nights. Visit the Interpretation Center to learn about the history, volcanic origins, ocean currents and diverse species unique to this remote island chain. Later, a hike up Tijeretas Hill offers beautiful landscapes and a magnificent view at the foot of a Frigate Bird nesting colony. Today breakfast, lunch and dinner will be included.

Day 14: San Cristóbal Island

Witness Cerro Brujo's tuff cone created from volcanic eruptions, lava formations, and beautiful white sandy beach that is perfect for snorkeling and sunbathing after a wet landing this morning. At the picturesque lagoon, migratory bird species such as Blacknecked Stilts, Ruddy Turnstones, Whimbrels, and Whitecheeked Pintails can be spotted. Cerro Brujo offers beautiful views of Kicker Rock, the southern part of San Cristóbal and the adjacent coast. Later, a second wet landing leads you to a trail for an intense hike over rocky terrain to the top of a volcanic tuff with several magnificent viewpoints. This spot is particularly special as it is the only site where the three booby species of the Galápagos can be seen together, as well as two species of frigate birds and a sea lion colony. The long, olivine beach allows for excellent snorkeling and dinghy rides in search of sea birds. Today breakfast, lunch and dinner will be included.

Day 15: Española Island

A dry landing on Española Island, one of the oldest and most isolated in the Galápagos, offers an unparalleled variety of wildlife. Explore volcanic formations

and see large colonies of sea lions and seabirds including the Española mockingbird, Nazca boobies, and the spectacular red billed tropicbirds. On Española, turquoise colored marine iguanas, lava lizards, and the colorful Sally light foot crabs abound. A hike brings you to nesting grounds where you may spot favorites such as the Galápagos dove, the Galápagos hawk, swallow tailed gulls and the world's largest colony of waved albatross a true highlight! Admire the island's dramatic backdrop and famous "Soplador," a blowhole that shoots water 75 feet into the air. This afternoon a wet landing on a beautiful white coral sandy beach guarded by a colony of sea lions offers the opportunity to spot Galápagos hawks, American Oystercatchers, Galápagos Ground Doves, Hood mockingbirds, Yellow Warblers, lava lizards, marine iguanas, and three species of Darwin's finches. Swim and snorkel among the Galápagos' marine wildlife such as king angelfish, Creole fish, damsel fish, parrotfish, manta rays, and white tipped reef sharks. Today breakfast, lunch and dinner will be included.

Day 16: Floreana Island

Make a morning wet landing on an olivine green, sandy beach of Floreana Island and hike through mangrove beds to a brackish lagoon in search of one of the largest flamingo populations in the Galápagos. Continue along the trail to a beautiful white sandy beach that is an important nesting site for Green Pacific Sea Turtles. From the beach, one can spot sea turtles, blue footed boobies plunging into the water, and small reef sharks floating along the shoreline in the search for food. Swim or snorkel amongst sea turtles, reef fish, and sea lions while keeping an eye out for the small colony of resident penguins. An afternoon wet landing in a Bay on the north side of Floreana brings you to "Post Office," so named when Captain James Colnett installed a wooden barrel which served as an informal post office for sailors in 1793. Today, visitors continue the tradition by placing unstamped postcards inside the barrel, hoping that some other traveler, going to that destination, will take it back for free. You may encounter Darwin's finches, Yellow Warbler and Lava Lizards here and snorkel among playful sea lions or Green Pacific Sea Turtles. Today breakfast, lunch and dinner will be included.

Day 17: Santa Cruz Highlands – Disembark Ship – Quito – Tour Ends

After dry landing on Santa Cruz Island head from the coast to the dense humid forests and the Highlands Tortoise Reserve. In addition to famed Galápagos Giant Tortoises you may also spot many different kinds of birds, such as tree and ground finches, vermilion flycatchers, paint billed crakes, yellow warblers, and cattle egrets usually found standing on the tortoises' shells! Bid the Galápagos goodbye and return to Quito, where a day room will be available close to the airport before your flight home. Today breakfast will be included.

The overall activity level of this tour is a level 4. This means you're ready to seize the day, whatever it may bring. You lead an active life at home (walking, biking, and half or full day hikes are things you may enjoy) and 10,000 steps a day is normal for you. You can handle longer walking tours (more than 3 hours covering 3+ miles at a steady clip) and activities that involve traversing uneven terrain, steep slopes, standing for periods of time, and varying altitudes and

temperatures. You don't mind being on the go with some early starts, late nights, and full days. You can handle altitudes of 9,000 feet or higher with little to no issue. This level is not appropriate for travelers who use wheelchairs, walkers, and other mobility assistance devices.

Cultural Connections

- Learn traditional methods of harvesting and weaving from a rural community.
- Stand tall in the "Middle of the World" at the Equatorial Line Monument and Museum.
- Wind through the Andes in a train to Machu Picchu.

Must-See Highlights

- On a private yacht, embark on a 4-night cruise of the Galápagos Islands with a naturalist guide.
- Explore the fabled ruins of Machu Picchu.
- Meet giant tortoises in their natural habitat.

Culinary Experiences

- Master two of South America's classics, ceviche and pisco sours, at an interactive cooking class.
- Delight in a farm-to-table lunch with a local Quechua community.

COST INCLUDES:

- Round-trip Flights
- Gratuities for meals, tourist guides, drivers
- Meals as specified - 16 breakfasts (B), 8 lunches (L), 10 dinners (D)
- Group T-shirt
- Document Meeting

ACCOMMODATIONS (subject to change):

Days 1-3 Inkaterra Hacienda Concepción Lodge

Days 4, 5 - Casa Andina Premium Miraflores, Lima

Days 6, 7 - Casa Andina Premium Sacred Valley, Yucay

Day 8 - Casa Andina Standard Machu Picchu, Aguas Calientes

Days 9, 10 - Casa Andina Premium, Cuzco

Days 11, 12 - Mercure Hotel Alameda, Quito

Days 13-16 - M/Y Coral II

ESTIMATED GROUP PER PERSON PRICING: (BASED ON MINIMUM OF 10 PASSENGERS)

Double = \$14,910 (subject to change once 2028 dates/prices become available)

PAYMENT REQUIREMENTS:

Space is limited to 16 seats!

Reserve Now to hold your seat with LeAnn and the rest of the group. The deposit required to confirm your seat = \$700 per person. Please give deposit check to LeAnn made payable to Krouse Travel or mail to 1284 Greensprings Drive, York, PA 17402, Attn: Krista Getz.

CANCELLATION POLICY:

Once 2028 final information is available, should you choose not to travel, your full deposit will be refunded. You will have 7 days from the date the final information is available to cancel. After 7 days, the deposit paid becomes non-refundable.

****Proof of citizenship in the form of a valid Passport is required. Names must appear on documents exactly as appearing on Passport. Passports must be valid for at least 6 months beyond the tour return date.**

To book, contact Krouse Travel, Krista Getz, kgetz@krousetravel.com or 717-244-6410.