



Andean Textile Arts Tour **BOLIVIA**

August 8 - 21, 2023

Explore the traditional arts, cultures, and natural wonders of Peru's southern neighbor.

- Visit the artisans of ARTECAMPO in Santa Cruz and Cochabamba weavers at ASUR in Sucre.
- Spend time with Jalq'a and Candelaria weavers in their villages, and explore the famous Tarabuco Market.
- Tour a silver mine in Potosi (UNESCO World Heritage site) and visit the Royal Mint House.
- Travel through the high plateau, see herds of llamas and vicunas, and meet local quinoa growers.
- Watch the sunset over the magical salt planes of Uyuni, and spend the night in a salt hotel.
- Fly over the high Andes to La Paz to visit the National Museum of Ethnography and Folklore.
- Explore the shores of Lake Titicaca.
- Wander through the Witches' Market in La Paz and view the city from above on telefericos.

Bolivia is a land of enchantment. Join us!

For further information or to register, contact Pam Art at pam.art@icloud.com

\$5,770 double occupancy

Single supplement \$650

\$500 non-refundable deposit included

TOUR LEADERS



Raul Jaimes Callanaupa grew up in the village of Chinchero, Peru, as the child and grandson of weavers. He received his degree in tourism from the University of San Antonio Abad. The number one thing that he wants his travelers to experience is his Andean Culture. He has led

tours in Peru and Bolivia for twenty-three years with travel companies such as Andean Treks and Overseas Adventure Travel in the U.S. and Exodus in Great Britain, before opening his own travel agency in 2014, Day Hikes and Self Guided Tours Peru (D.H.S.G). In 2004 Raul was named one of the “Best of the Best” tour guides internationally by Overseas Adventure Travel.

Kevin Healy received his BA in government from University of Notre Dame, his master’s degree in Latin American Studies from Georgetown University and his Ph.D. from Cornell University. For several decades he was a grant officer of the Inter-American Foundation, where he specialized in the Andean countries of Bolivia, Peru, Colombia, and Ecuador. For his work in Bolivia, Healy was decorated by the Bolivian government with the Gran Orden de Educacion at the rank of Commendador. Healy has taught at Georgetown University, George Washington University, American University, and Johns Hopkins University. His book *Llamas, Weavings, and Organic Chocolate* features Bolivian grassroots development success stories.



TRIP COST INCLUDES

- Experienced tour guides
- Hotel accommodations, including early check-in at Santa Cruz
- All entrance fees for sites mentioned in the itinerary
- All breakfasts, eleven lunches and six dinners
- Domestic airfares: Santa Cruz –Sucre, Uyuni – La Paz
- Ground transportation
- Tips for included meals, drivers, hotel staff, local guides
- Water throughout trip
- **\$500 tax-deductible donation to Andean Textile Arts**

Not included:

Tips for main guide, international airfare, any meals not specified, any additional hotel nights that may be necessitated by international airline schedule changes, personal expenses such as alcoholic beverages, any necessary visas and vaccinations to enter Bolivia.

The cost of the tour does not include travel insurance, which is strongly recommended.



Andean Textile Arts is a U.S. 501(c)3 non-profit dedicated to supporting the people and communities of the Andes in their efforts to preserve and revitalize their textile traditions. www.andeantextilearts.org

For further information or to register, contact Pam Art. pam.art@icloud.com

Bolivia Tour Itinerary

August 8 and 9 Fly to Santa Cruz de la Sierra with arrival evening of the 8th or early morning of the 9th. Explore Santa Cruz at own pace.

August 9 Morning briefing with Raul and Kevin, group lunch followed by a visit to the ARTECAMPO museum and store. ARTECAMPO represents 14 associations producing Indigenous and campesino crafts of the eastern lowlands.

August 10 Drive to the community of Buena Vista. Founded in 1694 as a Jesuit mission, it overlooks Amoro National Park. We will visit ARTECAMPO artisans who weave an array of attractive projects made from the jipi japa palm.

August 11 Flight to Sucre, one of the most charming cities in Bolivia. We'll take a walking tour and spend the afternoon at ASUR, a nonprofit which helps weaving communities maintain their cultural integrity and needed income by promoting the production and sale of their high-quality textiles. ASUR works with the Jalq'a and Tarabuco communities among others. We'll have a demonstration by the highland weavers of Cochabamba, known for distinctive dyes from native plants.

August 12 We visit Jalq'a communities several hours drive from Sucre to learn about their eye-opening designs and traditions. Nearby, the Land of the Craters is a unique geographic feature, popular in many Bolivian tours.

August 13 Visit to Tarabuco to experience one of the most famous markets in all of Bolivia. Many of the local people in Tarabuco, including members of the Yamapara community still wear traditional dress. We'll visit a Tarabuco weaver, and have ample time to wander the market.

August 14 Free day to explore. In the late afternoon we'll enjoy a private concert performed by well-known folk music group, Los Masis.

August 15 Drive to Potosi. The city came into existence after the discovery of silver there in 1545 and quickly became famous for its wealth. Within three decades its population surpassed 150,000, making it the largest city in the New World. A walking tour will include a visit to the UNESCO-listed Royal Mint, which occupies an entire block. Our tour will continue to Miners Market, and in the late afternoon we'll enjoy the sunset as we climb the foothills to interact with the miners, with an optional tour into the mine.

August 16 We'll start the morning with a drive to Uyuni across the Andean *altiplano*, see llamas and wild vicuñas grazing, and view quinoa fields before descending to the high plateau. Uyuni is adjacent to picturesque *salares* or salt flats. After lunch we will visit the quinoa processing plant of CECAOT, a Quechua quinoa farmers organization, which made the first quinoa exports to the U.S. from the Andes in 1982. We will meet with leaders of CECAOT to learn about their pioneering role and how today they supply school lunch programs with processed quinoa products made in their plant in Uyuni. Afterward, we will drive to the hotel for a panoramic view of the salt flat (*salar*) to enjoy the sunset.

August 17 Drive across the salt flats. The *salares* cover more than 4,086 square miles, and are so level that the surface is used to calibrate the altimeters on board satellites. On a still day, the thin layer of water covering the salt forms a great mirror reflecting the sky. We'll then visit Inka Wasi, an island formed by fossilized/petrified coral reefs.

August 18 Morning flight to La Paz. Depending on our arrival time, our activities will include visiting an Aymara community-based ceramics center, seeing a 17th century church, and exploring the shores of Lake Titicaca with an optional short boat ride. We'll lunch at the nearby town of Puerto Perez and visit a historic site in the town of Penas, where Bolivia's most famous Indian rebel was executed by the Spaniards.

August 19 Guided tour of NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ETHNOGRAPHY AND FOLKLORE. Bolivia's diverse Indigenous culture includes 39 independent ethnic groups. Our tour may include interactions with Indigenous weavers at the museum. In the afternoon we'll enjoy a tour of La Paz itself. Bolivia's capital perches in the magnificent, snowcapped Andes Mountains; it is crowded, noisy, and decidedly rough around the edges. We'll pay a visit to the "Witches' Market" where members of the Indigenous Aymara community sell beautiful handmade products, fresh local produce, as well as a variety of potions, medicinal plants, spells and spiritual advice. In contrast to this traditional lifestyle La Paz also has a cosmopolitan vibe, a city undergoing rapid change. Hipster cafes, chic boutiques, fine dining restaurants and a burgeoning art scene have established a presence in recent years, steadily transforming La Paz into the continent's coolest urban center.

Aug 20 Our last day and a chance to explore more of the unique features of La Paz and its Andean mountain environment. Perhaps cap off your tour of Bolivia with the magnificent views of La Paz provided by its famous cable cars?

Aug 21 Flights home.