



## Weaving Through the Andes: 25th Anniversary Artisan Tour in the Peruvian Highlands

October 21-November 2, 2025

- Visit remote weaving communities accompanied by legendary Quechua master weaver Nilda Callañaupa Alvarez.
- Begin our tour in Lima with a private visit to the Amano Museum's exquisite collection of pre-Columbian textiles
- Visit many of the greatest archaeological sites of the Incan Empire: the crown jewel of Machu Picchu, the fortress at Ollantaytambo in the Sacred Valley, and the massive ceremonial center of Sacsayhuaman.
- Learn of cultural treasures as our private guide, Raul Jaimes shares his knowledge of Incan architecture and history.
- View glaciers on your way to Nilda and Raul's hometown of Chinchero, where you'll have a traditional Andean lunch and take part in a natural dye workshop.
- Visit with young weavers and master artisans at four highland weaving communities.
- Enjoy extraordinary Peruvian cuisine including traditional community meals, gourmet dining, and international classics.

**An experience like no other, this nonprofit tour benefits the weaving communities of the Center for Traditional Textiles of Cusco (CTTC).**

## REGISTRATION

**\$5,450** per person, double occupancy

Single supplement **\$690**

*\$850 deposit is required at time of reservation. This includes a non-refundable deposit of \$350 and a \$500 donation to ATA.*

## TOUR LEADERS



**Raul Jaimes Callañaupa** 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. As a Quechua person, leading tours in the Andes is close to his heart: “My people are descendants of the Incas, a great civilization. But globalization is killing our culture. So I love to share my culture now.” Raul has led tours in the Andes for 23 years 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” tours guides by Overseas Adventure Travel.

**Nilda Callañaupa Alvarez** was born in Chinchero; as a child she tended sheep and learned to spin and weave. In 1996 she founded the Peruvian non-profit Centro de Textiles Tradicionales de Cusco, (CTTC) dedicated to the revitalization of ancient Andean textile traditions. CTTC has grown to encompass ten weaving communities.



Nilda has been a speaker at Cornell University, Harvard University, the Peabody Museum, the DeYoung Museum, the Textile Museum, National Geographic, the Smithsonian Institution, and the Santa Fe International Folk Art Market. She is an internationally recognized authority on traditional Andean textiles and the author of three books. She has won numerous awards.



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](http://www.andeantextilearts.org)

## TRIP COSTS INCLUDE

- All hotels
- All breakfasts, 8 lunches, and 5 dinners
- Expert English-speaking guides
- Arrival assistance at Lima airport
- Two domestic round-trip flights: Lima to Cusco, Cusco to Lima
- Private ground transportation
- Vistadome train to and from Machu Picchu
- Tips for included meals, drivers, hotel staff, and local guides
- Water throughout trip
- Entrance tickets for Sacred Valley sites, Cusco sites, Amano Museum, and two days of entry to Machu Picchu
- **\$500 tax-deductible donation to Andean Textile Arts**

## NOT INCLUDED

- International Airfare to/from Lima
- Travel and health insurance
- Meals not included in itinerary
- Visas and vaccinations
- Personal expenses such as alcoholic beverages and laundry services
- Tip for main guide



*For further information or to register, contact us at [tours@andeantextilearts.org](mailto:tours@andeantextilearts.org).*

## October 2025 Peru Tour Itinerary

**October 21 or 22: Flight to Lima.** Flight times vary from your home city so you may arrive on Oct 21 or early morning on Oct 22. You will be met at the airport and escorted to our hotel Jose Antonio (or similar) in the Miraflores area of Lima.

*Overnight at Hotel Jose Antonio or similar.*

**October 22:** Our tour begins with a group briefing, lunch, and a private guided visit at the Amano Museum. Here we will learn about and see the incredible pre-Columbian textiles that form the basis for much of the revitalization work of the Center for Traditional Textiles of Cusco. This evening will be our welcome dinner at La Rosa Nautica, an elegant restaurant set on a jetty with views of the ocean and the city of Lima.

*Includes breakfast, lunch, and welcome dinner. Overnight at Hotel Jose Antonio or similar.*

**October 23: Flight to Cusco and drive to Sacred Valley.** After breakfast in the hotel, fly with our group to Cusco and enjoy your first aerial view of the Andes. After a short transfer from the Cusco airport for an orientation, lunch, and currency exchange, we'll continue to the magnificent Sacred Valley, our charming hotel in Urubamba, and an incredible dinner.

*Includes breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Overnights at Hotel San Augustin Recoleta or similar in Urubamba, 9,700 ft. above sea level.*

**October 24: Urubamba and Chahuaytire.** Our first visit is to a traditional farmers' market. This a gathering place for families and farmers who travel from various regions, such as the cloud forest of Quillabamba or the Chinchero-Maras plateau, bringing fresh fruits and vegetables, potatoes, beans, corn, and much more. This market is very visually rich with the various dress and hats of the women.

After exploring the Urubamba market, we will drive to the weaving association of Chahuaytire, one of the first associations to partner with the CTC in 1999. The weavers inherited two principal textile techniques: *ley*, or supplementary warp-faced weave only woven by men; and *pumasillu* and *chilis*, or complementary warp-faced weave, woven only by the women.

*Includes breakfast and community lunch. Dinner on own. Hotel San Augustin Recoleta or similar.*

**October 25: Ollantaytambo & Accha Alta.** We will explore the superbly preserved Inca town of Ollantaytambo, named in honor of an Inca warrior called Ollantay, who loved Kusi Qoyllur, the forbidden and "high maintenance" daughter of the king, Inca Pachacutec. The Sun Temple, built with pink granite boulders each weighing 50 tons, is an exquisite example of fine Inca stonework. Then we drive to Accha Alta where we will enjoy time with the 40 adults and 30 children of this weaving association. They will demonstrate the variety of techniques they use with stunning results.

*Includes breakfast and community lunch. Dinner on own. Hotel San Augustin Recoleta.*



**October 26: Chinchero and Natural Dye Workshop.** This morning we will travel to Nilda Callañaupa's hometown of Chinchero and the beautiful weaving center there. We'll participate in a natural dye workshop and create our own yarn palette using traditional plants, as well as the famed cochineal beetle known for its beautiful reds. We'll have an opportunity to visit unique textile exhibits, explore a recreated traditional Andean weaving home, and take time for shopping in their exemplary store. Our lunch today will be a traditional meal sampling the typical daily food of a weaver in the Andes, and the special opportunity to try guinea pig, which is served for special occasions.

*Includes breakfast and traditional lunch. Dinner on own. Hotel San Augustin Recoleta or similar.*



**October 27: Machu Picchu.** Board the Vistadome train and travel along the Urubamba River as it tumbles down to the jungle. Catch a glimpse of the Inca Trail and snow-capped peaks. After arriving at the riverside town of Aguas Calientes, we check in to the beautiful Inka Terra Hotel for an early lunch, followed by an afternoon guided tour of Machu Picchu. Machu Picchu is the only major Inca site to escape 400 years of looting and destruction by the Spanish conquistadors due to its inaccessible location high above the Urubamba Gorge. It is an iconic site recognized and revered the world over.

*Includes breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Hotel Inka Terra Pueblo or similar. 7,200 ft. above sea level.*

**October 28: Back to Machu Picchu.** We return to Machu Picchu for a guided exploration of other areas of the site. For those who prefer a more leisurely day, the orchid garden and nature walks of the hotel grounds are spectacular, and the town of Aguas Calientes is lively and fun.

*Includes breakfast and dinner. Hotel Inka Terra Pueblo or similar.*

**October 29: Train to Cusco and Visit to the Center for Traditional Textiles of Cusco.** We leave the Sacred Valley and wind our way to Cusco, once the capital of the Inca Empire, and now known for its archaeological remains and Spanish colonial architecture. In the afternoon, we will visit the Center for Traditional Textiles of Cusco, the heart of our weaving organization, next to the Qorikancha, or "Golden Enclosure," the most important temple in the Inca Empire.

*Includes breakfast and lunch. Dinner on own. Overnight in Cusco at Hotel Novotel or similar. 11,000 ft. above sea level.*

**October 30: Walking Tour of Cusco and Sacsayhuaman.** We start our day at Sacsayhuaman, the Inca fortress with its commanding view of the city of Cusco. Built of massive boulders, some weighing more than 100 tons, Sacsayhuaman is a testimony to the Inca's mastery of stonework. Descending into Cusco, we will walk through the spiritual and political capital of the Inca Empire. We'll tour important temples, including the Qorikancha, and the Cusco Cathedral.

*Includes breakfast. Lunch and dinner on own. Overnight in Cusco at Hotel Novotel or similar.*

**October 31: Pitumarca Textile Center and "Sistine Chapel."** On our way to Pitumarca, we'll visit the Temple of San Pedro de Andahuaylillas, also known as the Sistine Chapel of America. Arriving in Pitumarca, we'll meet the community of 40 adults and 25 children who

weave, knit, and braid using techniques that are thousands of years old.



Pitumarca weavers are known for their revival of *ticlla*, a discontinuous warp and weft allowing a change of warp color at any time. Ticlla was thought to be lost until the CTC began recovering a tradition that only a few knew how to do. Now a younger generation is learning this highly complex technique. Once back in Cusco, stroll to the Plaza de Armas to enjoy the Halloween festivities with Peruvian families.

*Includes breakfast and community lunch. Dinner on own.. Overnight in Cusco at Hotel Novotel or similar.*

**November 1: Free Day in Cusco and time at CTC.** On our last full day in Cusco, there will be time to discover more of Cusco's awesome museums, shops, and galleries. Or perhaps some last-minute shopping? Leave some time to organize your packing because we fly to Lima in the morning. Our Farewell Dinner is this evening at a memorable gourmet restaurant.

This is also All Saint's Day when Peruvians spend their day with their relatives and honor/remember their dearly departed.

*Includes breakfast and Farewell Dinner. Lunch on own. Overnight in Cusco at Hotel Novotel or similar.*

**November 2: Back to Lima.** This is a free morning to enjoy a leisurely breakfast, pack your acquired treasures, bid farewell to Cusco, and fly back over the Andes to Lima. Private transportation will be provided to the Cusco airport in time for international flights, which typically leave late in the evening.

*Includes breakfast.*