



National Trust for Historic Preservation

National Trust Tours

BEST OF PERU'S ARCHAEOLOGY AND ART

SEPTEMBER 1–11, 2026

WITH ARCHAEOLOGIST WILLIAM SATURNO



Dear National Trust Traveler,

In the company of **archaeologist William Saturno**, engage with Peru's dazzling natural beauty, rich cultural traditions, and the legacy of a pre-colonial empire. Begin in **Lima** with a visit to the Larco Museum's extensive pre-Columbian collections before lunch on the museum's terrace. Stop at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Torre Tagle Palace, which houses rotating exhibitions on art, history, and current issues shaping the country.

Fly north to the coastal city of **Trujillo** to learn about the Moche and Chimú civilizations through visits to Huacas del Sol y la Luna, the adobe city of **Chan Chan**, and the intricate murals of El Brujo. Then travel to the **Sacred Valley of the Inca** to focus on traditional weaving in Chinchero, Andean agriculture at the Urubamba farmers' market, and the region's native orchid species.

Ascend to **Machu Picchu**, the 15th-century citadel set among dramatic mountain scenery and consider its enduring role in Peru's cultural identity. Conclude in **Cuzco**, the oldest continually inhabited city in the Western Hemisphere, where Incan foundations support Spanish colonial structures and daily life still reflects centuries of living tradition.

Throughout this journey, archaeology, art, and living heritage come together in a vibrant and engaging itinerary led by one of the field's most knowledgeable and passionate guides. Space should fill quickly, we encourage you to reserve your space by calling our office at (888) 484-8785 today!

With kind regards,



Meg Annacone-Poretz
Director, National Trust Tours

Study Leader



Archaeologist **William Saturno** served as the director of the Proyecto San BartoloXultun at the Instituto de Antropología e Historia in Guatemala. He received numerous National Geographic grants to support his excavation of ancient Maya murals and artifacts. His breakthrough discovery at San Bartolo in northwest Guatemala, of the oldest intact Maya murals yet found, became the focus of the January 2006 National Geographic magazine article 'The Dawn of Maya Gods and Kings,' and the June 2012 issue described his recent unearthing of murals at Xultún.

Bill has also served as the Field Director of the Río Amarillo Archaeological Project in Western Honduras, examining the relationships of Maya cities around Copán. Since 2013, he has directed field work in Northern Peru, using remote sensing techniques like Landsat and ASTER to find archaeological features. Bill can discuss how ancient Peruvians adapted to their coastal desert environment and how ancient land use has had lasting effects on environmental functions.



LARCO MUSEUM



MACHU PICCHU

Itinerary

Tuesday, September 1

HOME / LIMA, PERU

Depart home on flights to Lima, with most arrivals in the evening. Settle into the Westin Lima in the San Isidro district and enjoy dinner on your own.

WESTIN LIMA HOTEL & CONVENTION CENTER

Wednesday, September 2

LIMA

Visit Huaca Pucllana, a pre-Inca adobe pyramid in the heart of the city, offering insight into the ingenuity of Peru's coastal civilizations. Continue to the Larco Museum, housed in an 18th-century vice-royal mansion, where a remarkable collection of pre-Columbian ceramics, textiles, and gold artifacts vividly illustrates Peru's ancient history. Enjoy lunch on the museum's terrace before continuing to Casa Aliaga, the oldest continuously inhabited private residence in the Southern Hemisphere. Granted to conquistador Don Jerónimo de Aliaga in the 16th century, the home has remained in his family for seventeen generations. Later, take a leisurely walking tour through downtown Lima beginning at the Plaza de Armas, the city's historic center. End the day with a welcome dinner at one of Lima's renowned restaurants.

WESTIN LIMA HOTEL & CONVENTION CENTER (B,L,D)

Thursday, September 3

LIMA / TRUJILLO

Transfer to the airport for an early morning flight to Trujillo. Upon arrival, continue to the Moche Valley and visit the archaeological site of Huacas del Sol y la Luna. Set against the sacred Cerro Blanco, this Moche ceremonial complex features adobe pyramids with colorful friezes portraying deities, natural elements, and rituals. Enjoy lunch at a seaside restaurant in Huanchaco, where you can observe traditional *caballitos de totora*—reed boats still used by local fishermen. In the afternoon, visit Chan Chan, capital of the Chimú

Kingdom. As the largest pre-Columbian city in the Americas, this UNESCO World Heritage Site reflects advanced social organization, urban planning, and sophisticated irrigation systems.

WYNDHAM COSTA DEL SOL TRUJILLO (B,L,D)

Friday, September 4

TRUJILLO / LIMA

Head north of Trujillo to visit the El Brujo Archaeological Complex, an extraordinary site that showcases the ingenuity and artistry of the Moche culture. The highlight of this complex is the Huaca Cao Viejo, where the tomb of the Lady of Cao was discovered in 2005. This groundbreaking find reshaped the understanding of Moche society, revealing that women could hold positions of power—challenging the previous belief that only men occupied high-ranking roles. Next, visit the pyramid where she was buried. From its summit, take in sweeping views of other Moche pyramids and Huaca Prieta, a significant pre-ceramic site excavated in the 1940s. Conclude the day with a transfer to Trujillo's airport for an early evening flight back to Lima.

WYNDHAM GRAND COSTA DEL SOL LIMA AIRPORT (B,L)

Saturday, September 5

LIMA / SACRED VALLEY OF THE INCA

Fly to Cuzco this morning and transfer to the Sacred Valley. Along the scenic journey, stop for lunch at Hacienda Sarapampa to learn about the rich legacy spanning three generations of one of the Sacred Valley's most esteemed families. Immerse in a unique culinary experience, featuring traditional cooking with locally-sourced, organic products, a testament to the farmers' profound connection to their land. Continue to Pisac, a town where Inca and colonial influences intertwine. Browse its well-known craft market, offering ceramics, textiles, and jewelry. The remainder of the afternoon and evening are free to relax and enjoy.

SONESTA POSADAS DEL INCA YUCAY (B,L)



OLLANTAYTAMBO



REED BOATS IN TRUJILLO



INCAN GOLD MASK



CUZCO



AGUAS CALIENTES

Sunday, September 6

SACRED VALLEY OF THE INCA

Begin at the vibrant Urubamba farmers' market, then visit a mountain community in Lamay. Learn about the local agricultural calendar, traditional crops, and food processing techniques. Participate in seasonal activities that align with the agricultural calendar such as harvesting corn, cleaning quinoa, or making *chicha de jora*, a traditional Peruvian beverage. Afterward, visit Hacienda Huayocari, the expansive country home of the Lámbarri Orihuela family. Enjoy a private lunch, followed by a viewing of their Pre-Columbian, colonial, and republican art collection. Ana María Barberis's extensive orchid garden adds another highlight, featuring a wide array of native species.

SONESTA POSADAS DEL INCA YUCAY (B,L)

Monday, September 7

SACRED VALLEY / MACHU PICCHU

Start the day in Ollantaytambo, one of the last living Inca towns, celebrated for its extraordinary archaeological complex and rich history. Visit its fortress, an iconic site that showcases advanced engineering, religious significance, and strategic importance. Continuously inhabited since the Inca period, the town seamlessly blends ancient traditions with modern culture, making it a must-visit destination in the Sacred Valley. Enjoy spectacular vistas from the train to Aguas Calientes, the town closest to Machu Picchu. Embark on a guided tour of the legendary Machu Picchu archaeological site. Discover the brilliance of its architecture, from intricately carved stone temples to agricultural terraces, while delving into the history and mysteries of this Inca masterpiece, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the New Seven Wonders of the World. After a day of exploration, check into the Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel, tucked away in Aguas Calientes, where terraced hills, waterfalls, stone pathways, and 83 whitewashed adobe casitas nestle in the cloud forest.

INKATERRA MACHU PICCHU PUEBLO HOTEL (B,L,D)

Tuesday, September 8

MACHU PICCHU / CHINCHERO / CUZCO

Early this morning, choose between revisiting Machu Picchu along an alternate route for a fresh perspective or embarking on the exhilarating Huayna Picchu hike, offering breathtaking views of the surrounding landscapes. Take the train back down to Ollantaytambo for lunch, then continue by motorcoach to Cuzco, with a stop in Chinchero for a captivating Andean weaving demonstration led by Nilda Callañaupa, founder of the Center for Traditional Textiles. This evening, arrive at the UNESCO World Heritage site of Cuzco, the capital of the Inca Empire. Enjoy time at leisure to savor Cuzco and its wonderful restaurants.

MONASTERIO, A BELMOND HOTEL (B,L)

Wednesday, September 9

CUZCO

Start the day with a visit to Koricancha, the "Enclosure of Gold," a sacred Inca temple once dedicated to the Sun God. Next, head to the Cuzco Cathedral for its stunning chapels and exceptional collection of colonial art from the Cuzco School, offering a glimpse into the city's rich cultural and religious history. For lunch, enjoy a serene picnic in the idyllic countryside near Q'enqo, surrounded by the region's breathtaking natural beauty. In the evening, take a short walk from our hotel to the Pre-Columbian Art Museum, home to a remarkable collection that celebrates ancient Peruvian art as timeless masterpieces and highlights their influence on artists through the ages. This evening's farewell dinner will be enjoyed on the museum's elegant patio.

HOTEL MONASTERIO (B,L,D)

March 22

CUZCO / HOME

Enjoy a free morning in Cuzco to soak in the city's unique atmosphere before transferring to the airport for connecting flights home.

(B)



MONASTERIO HOTEL

Program Rates (per person)

Double Occupancy **\$8,990**
 Single Occupancy **\$10,590**

On-Tour Air (economy class) **~\$850 (estimated)**

These will be booked the tour operator and added to your invoice

For more information or to register by phone (preferred method of registration), please call **National Trust Tours at (888) 484-8785**. You may also email info@nationaltrusttours.com or visit www.nationaltrusttours.com.

General Information

Complete Terms and Conditions including a Statement of Responsibility will be made available at time of registration, or in advance upon request. A signed "Terms & Conditions, Release from Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Clause" is required from each traveler prior to participation on the tour.

PROGRAM RATES INCLUDE

All accommodations, meals, and excursions as specified in the itinerary, including **nine hotel nights** - Comprehensive program of briefings, presentations, and discussions - Group transfers for all participants on group arrival and departure dates - **All gratuities to porters, wait staff, guides, and drivers for group activities** - Entrance fees - Welcome and farewell gala dinners - **House wine and beer with all group lunches and dinners** - Water on motorcoaches - Comprehensive packet of pre-departure information - Professional tour manager throughout the program

PROGRAM RATES DO NOT INCLUDE

U.S. domestic and international airfare - Four on-tour flights (actual cost will be finalized closer to departure) - Passport/visa expenses - Medical expenses and immunizations if required at the time of travel - Travel and trip cancellation insurance - Private transfers or airport transfers outside of group arrival and departure days - Excursions that deviate from the scheduled tour options - Airline baggage charges - Meals not specified in the itinerary; dishes and beverages not part of the included meals; liquor or soft drinks except as noted - Laundry or dry cleaning - Telephone, fax, internet, and email charges - Room service - Other items of a personal nature

AIR ARRANGEMENTS

U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates. Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc., can help with airline arrangements for this trip and can be reached at 877-376-1754. You are also welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online travel site, or the airline of your choice. Further information about making flight arrangements will be sent to confirmed participants.

WHAT TO EXPECT

This promises to be a memorable journey, but please be aware of the pace and activity level in advance. Some walking takes place in historic quarters, where streets are often cobblestoned and uneven, or on unpaved ground at the numerous archaeological sites. Some buildings will not have elevators and there will be steps without handrails; participants should be able to comfortably climb stairs without assistance. Please be aware that the second half of the program takes place at high altitude, ranging from approximately 7,970' at Machu Picchu to 11,150' in Cuzco. The tour is planned to minimize the risk of altitude sickness by allowing opportunities to acclimatize as much as possible. After landing in Cuzco at the highest elevation, there is an immediate transfer to the Sacred Valley for several days at lower elevations before returning to Cuzco. Even so, many participants may experience some symptoms of altitude sickness, including headache, fatigue, and insomnia; it is possible a few may experience more severe symptoms. All hotels in the highlands have oxygen available for travelers experiencing symptoms of altitude sickness. Please note that higher altitudes can exacerbate health issues you may already have. All participants will be required to follow safety/sanitization protocols set forth by National Trust Tours and Criterion Travel, local staff, and host country laws. If the tour manager decides that a participant cannot visit a site safely or in a timely manner, their judgment will be final. Where possible, an alternate activity may be suggested; additional costs may apply.

RESERVATIONS & PAYMENTS

A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to reserve space on this program. If you have questions, or to register using a credit card (preferred method), please call (888) 484-8785 or email info@nationaltrusttours.com. Final payment deadline

is May 4, 2026. For those who register on or after May 4, 2026, full payment is due upon registration. Final payment may be made by check, wire transfer or credit card (credit card payments will incur a processing fee of 2%).

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS

Upon payment of the \$1,000 per person deposit, all reservations are subject to the cancellation provisions set forth below and by which the passenger agrees to be bound. Cancellations shall not be in effect until they are received in writing and confirmed by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Deposits are refundable (less a \$250 per person administration fee) if written notice of cancellation is received within 30 days of reservation; after that, deposits are 100% nonrefundable. After final payment deadline of May 4, 2026 all payments are 100% nonrefundable, regardless of booking date. Trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended. NOTE: Neither the National Trust for Historic Preservation nor Criterion Travel, the tour operator, accepts liability for any airline cancellation penalties incurred with the purchase of non-refundable tickets.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

National Trust Tours strongly recommends the purchase of trip cancellation insurance, which is available for coverage of expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to covered illness or accident. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. USI Travel Insurance Services offers a plan designed specifically for National Trust Tours travelers, providing coverage for Trip Cancellation, Trip Interruption, Emergency Medical, and more. Plus, you can upgrade your plan with Cancel For Any Reason (CFAR) coverage for the utmost flexibility. CFAR allows you to cancel your trip for ANY reason at all and be reimbursed up to 75% of your pre-paid, non-refundable trip costs (conditions apply, see plan for details). To purchase travel insurance today, call: (800) 937-1387. For additional information, please contact National Trust Tours at (888) 484-8785. Complete Terms and Conditions including a Statement of Responsibility will be made available at time of registration, or in advance upon request. A signed "Terms & Conditions, Release from Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Clause" is required from each applicant prior to participation on the tour.

ITINERARY CHANGES

The itinerary presented for this tour is subject to modification and change by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and Criterion Travel. Every reasonable effort will be made to operate the program as planned; however, should unforeseen world events and conditions require the itinerary to be altered, the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the tour operator reserve the right to do so for the safety and best interest of the group. Any extra expenses incurred in this situation are the responsibility of the participant.

ELIGIBILITY

National Trust for Historic Preservation tours are open to members only. Membership dues for 2025/2026 are \$30 for family and \$20 for individual membership. The minimum age limit for the program is 14. Children must pay the full price, and those under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. There is no maximum age limit. PLEASE NOTE: Participants must be in excellent health and able to participate in tour activities. Any physical condition that may require special medical attention must be reported at the time of your reservation. If you have any doubt about your ability to participate fully due to health conditions or disabilities, contact the National Trust at (888) 484-8785 or (202) 588-6300. The National Trust for Historic Preservation and Criterion Travel reserve the right to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of this tour at any time. In such case, the refund will be limited to the recoverable cost of unused tour services.

CST #2088800-40



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Find us on  National Trust Tours

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