

Colorful & Layered Peru

with Jim Petkiewicz and Janine Bajus

ARRIVAL ON NOVEMBER 4TH AND DEPARTURE ON NOVEMBER 15TH, 2018



Peru is one of the warmest and most intelligent textile cultures in the world.

Our travelers are lively, curious, independent folks who love to explore on their own. This is not a lock-step hand-holding tour; rather, our careful organization is meant to stay in the background so you can breathe and feel the essence of Peru's culture and people. Our local personal relationships allow us, like chefs who find the freshest ingredients in the mercados, to create daily options for you. You must be physically fit—the trip occasionally requires a significant amount of walking at higher altitudes (like Machu Picchu), often over uneven surfaces like stone stairs. If we sound like a good match for you after you've read through these pages, we'd love to welcome you to join us.





Your trip leaders, Jim Petkiewicz and Janine Bajus

Jim is a grassroots community activist who has never been known to get cold and who has knit and gifted Felfitos and Moebius cowls all over the world. Small children and dogs fall in love with him in nano-seconds. He holds a BA in History from Georgetown University and a Masters in Latin American Studies from the University of New Mexico. After extensive time in living & working in Bolivia and Peru beginning in 1985, Jim and his wife Mags moved their young family to Oaxaca, Mexico to work with community organizations dedicated to the environment, community-based education, the protection of human rights, health and fair trade, which evolved into the founding of their non-profit, Community Links International. Their children are now grown and Mags & Jim are based in San Jose, CA.

Janine has been intrigued by the interplay of fiber and color since she learned to weave when she was 11. She lives in Berkeley, California, surrounded by colorful yarn, spinning wheels, piles of fabric, looms, fleeces, and natural dyes. She revels in designing colorful and uniquely personal clothing and is excited that a new environment like Peru will force us to look with new eyes. With her help we'll be on the lookout for the casual juxtaposition of unexpected colors and the motifs hidden in cobblestones, doorways, courtyards, flowers, and fabrics, and exploring ways the colors and patterns can inspire our knitting. Janine has a BA and MA in Near Eastern Languages from the University of Washington, and has spent years working as a technical writer/editor. Now she is known as the Feral Knitter because of her fascination with modern Fair Isle knitting. Her classes on Fair Isle design have inspired hundreds of students to express themselves through color and pattern; her book—**The Joy of Color: Fair Isle Knitting Your Way**—makes her techniques available to everyone. You can learn more about Janine at www.feralknitter.com.

A note from Cat Bordhi: Jim and I have been co-leading textile tours to Peru for many years. It is a beloved home for me. I am so happy that my friend and colleague Janine Bajus will step into my shoes as the knitting teacher for our next trip. We are so excited for what she will experience and for all that you will gain from Janine's profound ability to coax colors into hauntingly beautiful designs, along with her knitting, weaving, and spinning insights. Thank you, Janine!

Cost of this 11-day trip

The tour fee is \$4,195 and includes:

- 11 nights of a shared hotel room (limited number of single rooms available for an additional \$800).
- All breakfasts. Some lunches, dinners, and snacks, including our welcome and farewell dinners and our Pachamanca feast in Ollantaytambo.
- Two workshops in Chinchero with our friends at the Center for Traditional Textiles of Cusco, probably on the topics of spindle spinning, Andean colorwork knitting, and natural dyeing.
- All air and ground travel from your arrival in Arequipa through your departure from Cusco.
- A lively cooking class with our friend Chef Arthur at his restaurant near our Arequipa hotel.
- A private guided tour to Andahuaylillas near Cusco.
- All fees for your visit to Machu Picchu with our professional guide, and an abundant buffet lunch.
- Knitting sessions with Janine Bajus, and our travel pattern.
- Tips for hotels, drivers, guides, and group meals. (Although, you're more than welcome to leave additional tips on your own.)

The tour fee does NOT include:

- Travel/Airfare from your home to Arequipa, nor from Cusco homeward.
- About half of your dinners and most lunches.
- Incidentals like personal taxi rides, snacks, personal items, souvenirs, nor medical expenses.



Reflections from our travelers...

The colors intensified by the high mountain air make an unforgettable kaleidoscope quilt...the indigenous clothes, jagged snow-capped peaks, the fields in the varied late-autumn display. Add the sounds, some familiar some not, and you have the perfect sound track to a wonderful adventure. The knitting is a perfect interface to weave our two very different cultures together.
—Kenny, California



To get the worst part over with first—it is that I have to leave! This trip has been absolutely wonderful—in terms of the beauty, the excellent arrangements, the care of Cat and Pecos, the knitting and textiles, and most of all—the people in the group. Best. Trip. Ever. —Mary Anne, Massachusetts

This is not a tour. It's a knitting pilgrimage. —Denise, California

I love how you give us a certain structure each day but so much freedom to make our own journey along the way, We have a safety net and can then go out and make our own connections with people. You are not holding our hands, and it's wonderful.—Sherri, Canada

Best trip out of the country EVER! Also first! If anyone has any concerns about travel, go with this group.
—Nancy, North Carolina

Depth of history, life focus moving through a fantastic culture with new friends. A sense of connection with each person and experience. — Peter, Washington

As a gay person on Cat and Pecos's Peru trip, I found it very refreshing that my orientation was a non issue. —Gill, Australia.

You walk that fine balance of being supportive while allowing us to have our own adventures instead of being in a cocoon the whole time. Cat and Pecos, you manage that beautifully. — Kat, Oregon

The highlight I'd expected was Machu Picchu but it turned out to be my experience with Matilde, an elderly vendor in Ollantaytambo. We had a really heartfelt exchange with her, and bought things from her, then noticed that she was looking at her knitting up close. Asked if she had glasses, she didn't, so I ran home to get an extra pair of readers and gave them to her. She said gracias, and I wasn't sure if it had made a big difference. We had said good-bye when suddenly there was Matilde running down the hill toward me because she wanted to give me one more gift, as a remembrance of gratitude and friendship. She had discovered what the readers did for her and wanted to express how meaningful our connection was.—Michele, Arizona



Our Itinerary

We gather in Arequipa, and will be here from November 4-7 (Sunday to Wednesday)

Sunday you will arrive in Arequipa's small airport, where drivers from our garden hotel, La Casa de Mi Abuela, will greet you and bring you "home." We gather for our welcome dinner at 6:30 in the 16th century hotel restaurant; until then, the day is yours to rest, wander, knit, or enjoy the small swimming pool.

Monday morning, after a leisurely buffet breakfast of local fruits, avocados, olives,

tomatoes, ham, cheese, eggs, rolls and breads, homemade granola, cereals of local grains, yogurts, teas and coffee (we do love Peruvian breakfasts!), we gather in the upper garden by the pool for our first knitting workshop session.

The lovely design Janine will teach will engage & excite you and allow you to share stitches with Peruvians in the plazas when you sit and absorb Peruvian life! **Tuesday afternoon** we will have our mercado tour and cooking class with talented Chef Arthur just a few blocks from our hotel! Some nearby treasures to explore are: la Plaza de Armas, el Convento de Santa Catalina, Mundo Alpaca, and el Museo Santuarios Andinos.



**Fly to Cusco: November 7-11
(Wednesday to Sunday)**

We'll be up early Wednesday morning to fly to Cusco, so we can enjoy most of the day in this charming ancient Incan city. Our charming colonial B&B, El Balcón, sits a few blocks above the Plaza de Armas. Once we are all settled, we'll lead you down to the Plaza, show you around, and set you free for the day, encouraging you to take it relatively easy, eat lightly, and drink lots and lots of water (essential at the higher altitude).



Thursday after breakfast we will travel 1 hour to the mountain city of Chinchero for the first of our workshops with the Centro de Textiles Tradicionales de Cuzco.

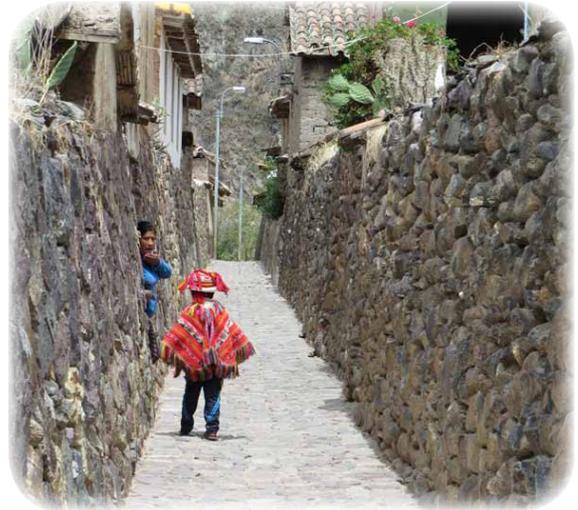
Friday is a free day for exploration. However, in the afternoon we offer—for whomever desires—a private, guided tour with our friend Melquiades to the Sistine Church of Andahuaylillas, a world-famous, beautifully restored UNESCO heritage site about 1 hour away.



Saturday after breakfast we will again head to Chinchero for another workshop. Your evening is free before departure tomorrow morning.

Ollantaytambo and Machu Picchu: November 11-13 (Sunday to Tuesday)

Sunday morning our friend and professional guide & driver, Melquiades, and his staff will drive us from Cusco through beautiful landscapes to Ollantaytambo in the Sacred Valley, where we will settle into the El Albergue Hotel right beside the train that will carry you to Machu Picchu.



Monday morning you'll roll out of bed early to enjoy a hot breakfast, and then board the narrow-gauge train. It will carry you to Aguas Calientes, at the base of the steep mountain that rises to embrace the mysterious stonework of Machu Picchu. Our expert guide will share deep knowledge and a sense of wonder that will amplify your experience of this magical place.

After your time at Machu Picchu (you got up early to miss the larger crowds) our guide will lead you to a refuge of relaxation and refueling: an extensive buffet in a restaurant at the base of the mountain. It is built out over the Urubamba River that you could see meandering below the towering heights of Machu Picchu. Then the train will carry you back to Ollantaytambo to settle your tired self into your welcoming hotel room.



On Tuesday you're free to explore Ollantaytambo with its archeological ruins (considered some of the best in all of Peru), labyrinthine Incan stone alleys dotted with artisans, or sit and knit in our hotel's tropical garden (amongst hummingbirds with very long tails) until the afternoon, when we will tour the organic farm that is part of our hotel and enjoy a centuries-old Pachamanca, a feast of organic vegetables and meats roasted underground in layers of wood-heated stones. This experience will make you wish your camera could capture all five senses! It is a time to marvel at the wonders of Peru and to be grateful for our experiences and our new friendships while we have this pre-going-away dinner in the beautiful mountain valley of Ollantaytambo.



**And back to Cusco and El Balcón:
November 14-15 (Wednesday & Thursday)**

Wednesday morning after a leisurely breakfast and free morning we'll drive back to our Cusco home, El Balcón, stopping at the stunning panorama above the Sacred Valley that is pictured on the first page of this PDF, and linger over a deluxe box lunch from El Alergue's master chefs while marveling at the beauty stretched out before us. This will serve as our Going Away time & sharing. Once back in Cusco, you have the afternoon & evening free to explore, relax, chat, shop or anything else.

Thursday is departure day.

Melquiades will take you to the airport for your journey back to the world you came from (we suggest an early morning flight so that you can make it home in one day). That once-familiar world of home may now seem far, far away and long, long ago, for Peruvian time and space is like that, taking root deep in your heart and altering your sense of the world we live in.





At times the trip can be strenuous

You need not be an athlete, but must be in good health and enjoy walking at length, sometimes over uneven surfaces, while carrying a small backpack (with water, camera, snacks, etc.) at a high altitude (Arequipa about 7,000, Cusco 11,000, Ollantaytambo 9,000, and Machu Picchu 8,000). It's your responsibility to take care of yourself and your luggage so that you can either keep up with everyone or bow out of activities as needed.

If you decide to come with us, you must:

- Get plenty of exercise before the trip begins
- Commit to drinking a lot of water at high altitudes
- Rest when you need to
- Get altitude medicine if your doctor recommends it
- Measure your group time against private time as needed



Here is one morning's laundry drying in the courtyard of Hogar de Juana Aza, a sanctuary home in Cusco for 10 young unwed mothers and their babies. Our wise friend Hermana Luz and her colleagues at the adjacent convent and school, Santa Rosa de Lima, keep the Hogar afloat with the help of others. We and many of our travelers donate money, time, and supplies to help the girls grow up safely and receive an education to prepare them for an independent and healthy future. This gives you a glimpse of the character of Community Links International, a nonprofit which was founded by Jim and his wife Mags. CLI is dedicated to sustainably changing communities through holistic engagement primarily in central California and highland Peru. We are dedicated to environmental sanity and healing, community-based education with kids and their families and right relationships. We thank you for helping make our world kinder, more compassionate, and more functional.

REGISTRATION FOR "COLORFUL & LAYERED PERU"
WITH JIM AND JANINE, NOVEMBER 4-15, 2018

Name: _____

Mailing address: _____

Email: _____

Home phone: _____ Cell: _____

Emergency contact: _____

If you do not have a friend to share a room with, we will try to pair you with another traveler.

\$4,195 _____

Limited single occupancy (add \$800; we will let you know if a single is available).

• **Participants must be in good health.** If you have any doubts about your physical capabilities, please bring a companion who can take care of you as needed, and skip activities to stay with you as needed. We cannot alter or slow down the program for a participant who is unable to keep up with the group. Please sign here to assure us you understand this: _____

• **We cannot assist with airport transfers or accommodations that fall outside our program dates.** We organize our own program as described in our itinerary, but are not a travel agency, so we cannot be responsible for coordinating your personal travel, or arranging additional days. If your schedule will differ from our itinerary, please plan to make your own arrangements.

• **We carefully craft our itinerary to develop community among our travelers,** and cannot sell partial trips to family or friends who prefer to join us later. If you wish to bring someone with you, our policy is that they must join us for the entire trip.

SO, LET'S GET YOU REGISTERED!

Step 1: Email Jim at PECKOS@ME.COM to find out if we still have space. If so, go on to step 2.

Step 2: Print and fill out pages 10 and 11 and mail them to JIM PETKIEWICZ, 916 WREN DRIVE, SAN JOSE, CA 95125, with a check for \$500 (your nonrefundable deposit will hold your spot) made out to Community Links International. If you need to cancel, you may transfer this deposit **only if you find a replacement yourself. The balance is due 3 months before the trip commences.**

Step 3: Email a scan of your passport to Jim at PECKOS@ME.COM (alternatively you may make a copy and send it with this form).

**“COLORFUL & LAYERED PERU”
WITH JIM AND JANINE, NOVEMBER 4-15, 2018**

WAIVER: In consideration of being permitted to participate in any way in the Peru textile program of Community Links International (a registered USA 501(c)(3), TIN #51- 0560531), with the collaborative participation of Janine Bajus, herein after called “The Activity”, I, for myself, my heirs, personal representative or assigns, do hereby release, waive, discharge, and covenant not to sue the Directors, employees, consultants or agents, including Janine Bajus, Jim Petkiewicz, or Community Links International for liability for any and all claims including the negligence of the Directors, employees, consultants or agents resulting in personal injury, accidents, or illnesses (including death) and property loss arising from, but not limited to, participation in The Activity.

Assumption of risks: Participation in The Activity carries with it certain inherent risks that cannot be eliminated regardless of the care taken to avoid injuries. The specific risks vary from one activity to another, but the risks range from 1) minor injuries such as scratches, bruises, sprains, gastrointestinal issues, and altitude sickness, 2) major injuries such as eye injury or loss of sight, joint or back issues, heart attacks, vehicular accidents, and concussions 3) catastrophic injuries including paralysis and death.

I have read the previous paragraphs and I know, understand, and appreciate these and other risks that are inherent in The Activity. I hereby assert that my participation is voluntary and that I knowingly assume all such risks.

Indemnification and Hold Harmless: I also agree to indemnify and hold the Directors, employees, consultants and agents, including Janine Bajus, Jim Petkiewicz, and Community Links International, harmless from any and all claims, actions, suits, procedures, costs, expenses, damages and liabilities, including attorney’s fees brought as a result of my involvement in The Activity and to reimburse them for any such expenses incurred.

Severability: The undersigned further expressly agrees that the foregoing waiver and assumption of risks agreement is intended to be as broad and inclusive as is permitted by the law of the state of California, legal residence of Community Links International, and that if any portion thereof is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall, notwithstanding, continue in full legal force and effect.

Acknowledgment of Understanding: I have read this waiver of liability, assumption of risk, and indemnity agreement, fully understand its terms, and understand that I am giving up substantial rights, including my right to sue. I acknowledge that I am signing the agreement freely and voluntarily, and intend by my signature to be a complete and unconditional release of all liability to the greatest extent allowed by law.

signature

print name

date

Please print this form, sign, and mail to:

Community Links International, 916 Wren Drive, San Jose, CA 95125