

Archaeology

High School Special Schedule

Peru

Welcome to our High School Special Archaeology Project in Peru! Are you ready for a once-in-a-lifetime experience working with the local community and exploring this beautiful country?

Programme Goals:

-  **Research and Preservation:**
Spend your time working our archaeological team, as you seek to advance research into the ancient civilisations of South America. Get engaged in mapping, drawing, registry works, ceramics and weaving as you explore new sites and clean and classify artefacts for preservation.
-  **Learning:**
Attend workshops on metal works, drawing, and excavation techniques while simultaneously improving your mastery of the Spanish language. Interact with valuable pieces while cleaning, registering, and photographing genuine Inca and pre-Inca artifacts in the museum.
-  **Cultural Immersion:**
Immerse yourself in the vibrant culture of Peru through captivating experiences that include witnessing traditional dances, engaging in meaningful conversations with locals, and savoring the authentic flavors of Peruvian cuisine, all while making a meaningful impact through your volunteer work. Embark on an enriching journey alongside fellow volunteers, forging lifelong friendships and creating cherished memories as you visit iconic landmarks, explore the rich history of Peru, and marvel at the breathtaking beauty of its diverse landscapes





- Highlights**
- ▶ Help to preserve national heritage sites
 - ▶ Uncover ancient Incan structures
 - ▶ Visit Machu Picchu
 - ▶ Learn to dance salsa
 - ▶ Immerse yourself in Peruvian culture
 - ▶ Offset your carbon footprint
 - ▶ 20 Service hours

Accommodation

Host Families and a hotel

Transport

Taxis, bus, trains and by foot

Meals

Breakfast will be served at your host family each day. Lunch will either be at the hospital, at home or in the community. Dinner will be at home or a restaurant.

Timings

This schedule is subject to change, however you will be advised in advance should this happen. The timing may differ from day to day depending on the activity and progress of the volunteer work.

Responsible Travel

We offset 100% of carbon emissions associated with your in-destination transport. We’re committed to being fully climate-positive by 2024!

By volunteering with us you’re helping reforestation efforts, protecting existing forests and providing employment to local communities around the world.

Day 1

Sunday
Arrival in Peru

You will arrive into the bustling city of Cusco, located in the Peruvian Andes. Cusco was once capital of the Inca Empire, and is now popular for its archaeological remains and Spanish colonial architecture.

After you pass through customs you will be met by a staff member holding a sign welcoming you to Cusco. You will then be taken to the host family’s home where you will relax, have a meal and rest for the next day.



Day 2

Monday
Induction

After breakfast, you will be collected from the host family and travel 20 minutes to the Projects Abroad Office where you will be briefed on the Archaeology programme, the schedule, and the placement and cultural expectations.

Journey to the city centre where you will tour the local neighbourhood and exchange money and purchase toiletries or a sim card as needed.

Enjoy a delicious lunch with the staff and then return to the office for an interactive presentation on General Archaeological Techniques. Explore San Blas neighbourhood and Cusco centre before returning to your host family for a delicious dinner. .

Day 3

Tuesday

Morning: After a delicious breakfast, head to the archaeological sites in Uno Urco and Zurite Terraces. Here you will be introduced to different preservation techniques as you assist with maintenance work at the sites.

Afternoon: After a delicious lunch at the host, head to the Tawantinsuyo museum and enjoy learning as much as helping with the ancient artefacts.

Evening: Enjoy tasty Peruvian dishes in the comfort of your host family as you unwind and reminisce on a day well spent.

Day 4

Wednesday

Morning: Enjoy a sumptuous breakfast before returning to the archaeological sites in Uno Urco and Zurite Terraces. You will assist with the clearing of weeds around the ancient stonework at the Zurite terraces complex. You will also use secateurs to cut back vegetation at this Inca site.

Afternoon: Head back to your family for a homemade lunch before immersing yourself in a drawing workshop where you will learn to produce different section drawings to show features of the walls of the terraces in Zurite.

Evening: Share about the events of your day as you learn how to prepare Peruvian dishes at your cooking class.

Day 5

Thursday

Morning: Share in a nutritious breakfast before engaging in some registry work. This hand on activity involves volunteers measuring artifacts and completing written descriptions of said items.

Afternoon: Enjoy a well-prepared lunch at the host before embracing your creative side as learn about different artisan textile techniques.

Evening: Reflect on a productive day with the perfect balance of theory and practice over a delicious dinner.

Day 6

Friday

Morning: After breakfast, get ready for a full morning in the museum. Dive into practical work as you clean and arrange ancient artefacts from South America, even rare pieces.

Afternoon: Enjoy some salsa lessons before listening to the briefing which will introduce you to the itinerary, travel arrangements, and packing list. Grab some snacks, watch a movie, eat some ice cream and get some cash from the ATM as you spend some time at the shopping mall.

Evening: Settle in for an early night after dinner, in anticipation of the weekend ahead.

Day 7

Saturday

Full

Day:

Meet at the pick up point and travel to the artisan foundry Awanacancha where you will visit a small museum and witness the traditional methods of casting dyes and weaving. Enjoy a guided tour of the archaeological site Písaq in the Sacred Valley.

Travel to Urubamba, for a delicious lunch, then journey to the archaeological site of Ollantaytambo for another interesting guided tour.

Travel to the nearby station to catch the train to Aguas Calientes where you will check in and unwind as you enjoy dinner at a nearby restaurant and settle in for the night.

Day 8

Sunday

Full

Day:

Arise early in the morning to catch the bus to the great Machu Picchu, one of the 7 Wonders of the World. Embark on the amazing tour and capture the moments through photos and sightseeing.

Return to the hotel and enjoy a delicious lunch before packing for your return to Cusco.

Share your exciting memories of the weekend over dinner at the host family.

Day 9

Monday

Morning: After breakfast, head to the museum where you will work alongside the archaeologist and gain insight into the process of registering cultural material after an archaeological investigation is concluded.

Afternoon: Enjoy lunch at the host family and then take a trip to visit other museums around Cusco.

Evening: Enjoy the Peruvian cooking as you have dinner at the host family.

Day 10

Tuesday

Morning: Embark on a journey of discovery, cleaning, registering, and photographing genuine Inca and pre-Inca artifacts in the museum.

Afternoon: Put on your language caps after lunch, and immerse yourself in the wonders of Spanish, through your Spanish lessons.

Evening: Reflect on the impact you made as you settle down for another delicious meal.

Day 11

Wednesday

Morning: Enjoy a nutritious breakfast before heading to the Incan terraces where you will clear weeds and cut back vegetation from around the ancient stonework at the Zurite terraces complex.

Afternoon: After a delicious lunch prepared to be introduced to different excavation techniques at your workshop. Engage in a PowerPoint presentation and get the opportunity to also interact with genuine artefacts.

Evening: Relax with a lovely dinner served by the host family and reflect on another productive day.

Day 12

Thursday

Morning:

Share in a healthy breakfast before heading to Pisac for some ceramic activities. Enjoy a presentation which will explain some of the lesser known facts relating to the 'conquest' of Peru followed by a fun challenge to reassemble an original, ceramic vessel from broken potsherds.

Afternoon:

Enjoy some lunch in Racqui before preparing materials for your next activity.

Evening:

Unwind with some delicious dinner at the host family.



Day 13

Friday

Morning: Prepare for your farewell activity as you engage in the ceremony: The Payment to the Mother Earth. Payment to the earth is an ancient custom in which our ancestors had a strong bond of respect, love and worship with nature.

Afternoon: After a delicious lunch, complete your feedback forms and check in for your flights where possible. Dash to the handicraft market for one final stop as you grab some last-minute souvenirs for family and friends.

Evening: Enjoy your farewell dinner with the staff and your new found friends. Cheers to a phenomenal experience where you were able to help, learn and explore.

Day 14

Saturday

The group members will likely be departing at different times, therefore day 13 and 14 may not be the same for everyone.

Your exact departure plan will be communicated with you directly by our local team. If you have longer to wait around, we will ensure you are comfortable and well looked-after.

You will have the continued support of Projects Abroad staff right until you are safely at the airport to board your plane back home.

Personal Achievements



- Completed a total of 20 service hours.
- Learned how to maintain, clean and preserve Inacan and Pre-Incan artefacts.
- Developed a greater appreciation of history and archaeology.
- Improved my mastery of the Spanish language.



Student Learning Outcomes

Intercultural Competence

Students will be immersed in different cultures, gaining an understanding of their role within our global community and developing a deeper cultural awareness.

Leadership Development

Students will be pushed out of their comfort zones, experiencing new challenges each day. They will build their confidence and resilience through team activities and new life experiences.

Healthy Active Living

Students will be encouraged to prioritise their self-care, enhancing their physical and mental well-being.

Empowerment

Students will be empowered to think for themselves, challenging the “status-quo” and cultivating transformative decision-making mindsets.

Global Citizenship

Students will be exposed to new perspectives, engage with real-world challenges and contribute to sustainable development initiatives.



Peru has a rich cultural heritage and diverse landscape. Explore the rugged Andes and the world famous Inca citadel of Machu Picchu. Venture into street markets and explore Plaza de Armas. There’s amazing food, sights, scenery to experience!

FUN FACTS

- The Amazon River starts in Peru
- 60% of Peru is covered by rainforest
- Machu Picchu is one of the New 7 Wonders of the World
- Peru recognizes 3 official languages: Spanish, Quechua and Aymara
- ¾ of the world’s alpaca population lives in Peru

Want to learn more?

We’d be happy to talk to you and and and answer any questions you may have. You can call or email our team, or use the ‘live chat’ feature on the Projects Abroad website.

General inquiries: info@projects-abroad.org

Destination Information	
National Language:	Spanish
Population:	34 million
Currency:	Peruvian Sol
Time Zone:	GMT -5
Capital:	Lima
Calling Code:	+51
Dominant Religion:	Catholicism
National Dish:	Ceviche
National Animal:	Vicuña
National Bird:	Cock-of-the-rock
National Flower:	Cantuta

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