Education First

Educational Tours

EXPLORING ART, CULTURE & SERVICE IN PERU

9-12 days

MEANINGFUL. SUSTAINABLE. UNFORGETTABLE.

From Lima to Machu Picchu, you'll be immersed in the land and culture of Peru. Connect with local communities in the Sacred Valley and learn how they preserve their history, art, and their heritage. There, you'll explore the archaeological remains of the Inca Empire and their lasting cultural influences. While taking in the breathtaking sights from atop the mighty Andes, you'll also spend two days working in a local community on projects that support economic sustainability, local agriculture, and access to education.

5 Estimated service hours

YOUR SERVICE PROJECT THEMES

We work with local non-profits to better understand the needs of each community and focus projects on those issues. Themes include:

– Ancient civilizations
– Cultural continuity and modernization
– Arts and education

EXPLORING ART, CULTURE & SERVICE IN PERU

9-12 days, estimated 5 service hours

What to expect on this Service Learning Tour

MEANINGFUL SERVICE

Working side by side with locals, you'll gain insight into the challenges they face and build lasting solutions to help empower the community.

Projects include:
- Building local centres where women can teach tourists how to make traditional crafts, and sell them as a stable source of income
- Making home improvements for families in need
- Designing and planting family gardens

CULTURAL IMMERSION

Live just outside the communities you serve—celebrating customs and forming lasting connections with locals.

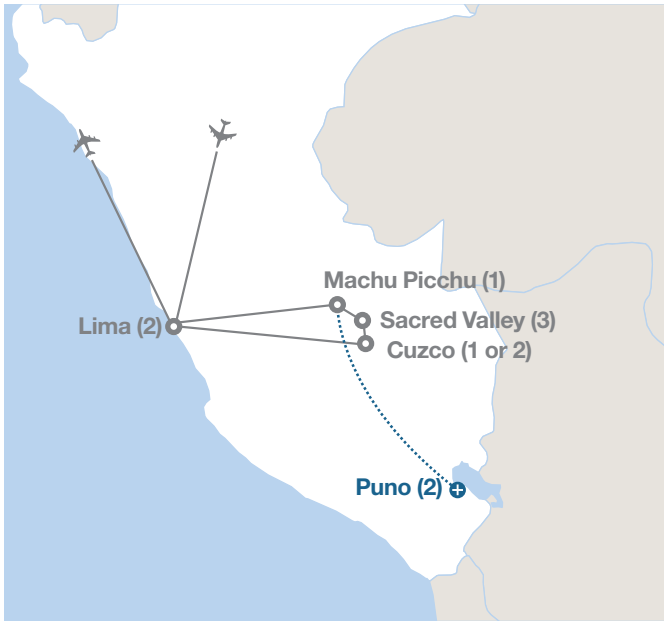
Activities include:
- Visiting the ancient Inca site of Machu Picchu
- Meeting local ceramicists and participating in a pottery workshop where students design their own ceramic tiles
- Learning traditional weaving techniques from local artists

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Your Field Director takes your global service experience even further, developing and strengthening leadership skills through focused activities.

Exercises include:
- Investigating global issues, exploring social justice, and building leadership skills
- Contextualizing the day's events through thoughtful discussion and group dialogue
- Reflective journaling to deepen the service experience

Saying goodbye is hard for everyone, as this Group Leader thanks the community for their warm hospitality



A view of the streets in Ollantaytambo, a small town and Inca archaeological site in southern Peru

Students rest after an afternoon hike to the top of Machu Picchu

9-DAY ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrive in Lima
Meet your Field Director at the airport.

Day 2: Lima
Take a guided tour of Peru's capital, once known as the City of the Kings.
– Visit the 17th-century San Francisco Monastery where Jude the Apostle is honoured.
– Explore the Larco Museum for a look at pre-Columbian art.
– Take a walking tour of Miraflores shopping district.

Day 3: Sacred Valley of the Incas
Fly to Cuzco, the unofficial capital of the Sacred Valley of the Incas.
– Learn about Peruvian pottery at the Seminario Ceramics workshop in Urubamba.

Day 4: Machu Picchu
Board a train for Aguas Calientes, the main gateway to Machu Picchu.
– Visit the ancient Inca site of Machu Picchu with your local guide, followed by an afternoon hike with your group.

Days 5-6: Service Project—Sacred Valley of the Incas
As communities evolve, so do their needs. That's why we work closely with local non-profits to better understand each community's issues. Since projects are determined closer to your actual tour date, here's a glimpse at what a typical day might look like.
– Travel by train to Ollantaytambo and then transfer to the Sacred Valley.
– Explore a local community where you'll work with locals on your service project.
– Throughout your stay, you'll also be immersed in cultural activities, celebrating local customs and traditions.
– Evenings are a chance to reflect, discuss events as a group, and draw connections between the day's work and relevant global issues.

Day 7: Cuzco
– Transfer to Cuzco via Pisac.
– Explore the vibrant Pisac Market, known for its Peruvian crafts.
– Visit the Sacsayhuaman archeaological site.

Day 8: Travel to Lima | Depart for home

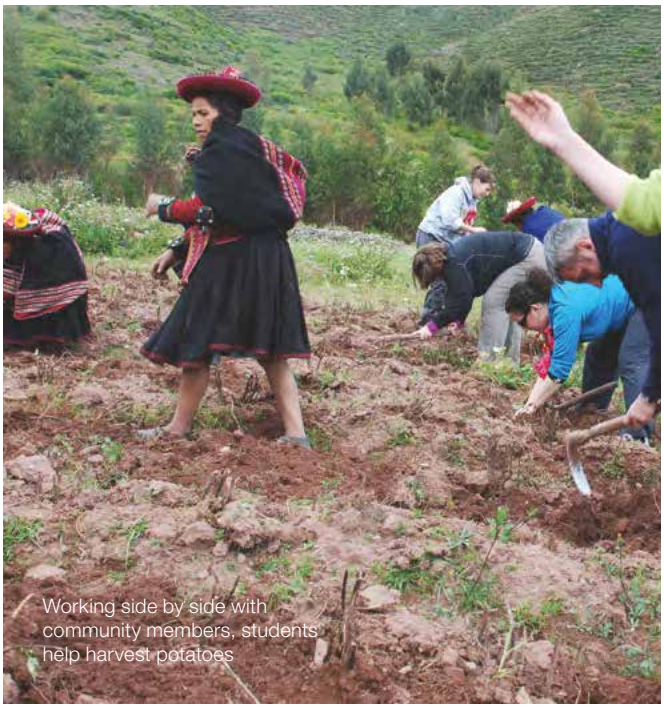
Day 9: Arrive home

4-DAY TOUR EXTENSION
Days 9-12: Puno | Lima
– Visit the Raqhi Temple.
– Enjoy a boat excursion on Lake Titicaca, where you'll stop at the Taquile and Uros island to participate in a hike and meet with native communities.
– Transfer to Lima for your return flight home.

LOCAL INSIGHT AND SUPPORT

Your bilingual Field Director deepens your connection to the land, people, and culture. With local perspective on community challenges and training in service leadership, they'll provide insight and global context, as they:
– Lead skill-building workshops and meaningful group reflections
– Connect you with local non-profits and nearby villages
– Facilitate group orientation and safety training
– Handle all on-tour details, from meals to transportation

Everything you get: 7 overnight stays in hotels, 10 with extension; round-trip flights on major carriers; daily breakfast and dinner; lunch on days 5-6; local ground transportation; full-time Field Director; sustainable service projects; sightseeing tours led by expert guides; entrance fees



Working side by side with community members, students help harvest potatoes

A local woman demonstrates traditional weaving methods for the students

Art comes to life as this Peruvian ceramist paints some of her pottery, a major source of local revenue

Your partner in global education

EF EDUCATIONAL TOURS

For over 50 years, EF has worked with educators across the world to help millions of students become citizens of the world through one global mission: Opening the World Through Education. With more than 500 schools and offices in over 50 countries, our staff can respond in person wherever you are, 24 hours a day.

ABOUT SERVICE LEARNING TOURS

ME to WE is an innovative social enterprise that provides people with better choices for a better world. It measures the bottom line—not by annual dollars earned, but by the number of lives changed and the positive social and environmental impact made. Half of ME to WE's annual net profit is donated to WE Charity, and the remainder is reinvested to further the social mission of their enterprise.

START PLANNING

To enrol on this tour, ask your teacher for the tour number and visit eftours.ca/enrol or call 1-800-263-2806

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