

Sojourn in Peru, with the rare blessing of the Tinkuy Gathering

ARRIVAL ON NOVEMBER 4TH AND DEPARTURE ON NOVEMBER 18TH, 2017



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.



About the third (and possibly last) Tinkuy Gathering of the Textile Arts



Ever since we took our first group to Peru in 2013, to the second Tinkuy, we've been hoping for another Tinkuy to share with people who care about sustaining textile traditions and the communities and cultures they have been integral to for centuries. It is impossible to convey the splendor of this mostly indigenous convergence of weavers, knitters, and spinners that opens like a flower that blossoms only a few times in a lifetime. *Imagine a time machine* that delivers you to a space where ancient cultures flourish together as if their distant lands were

joined, where you can take Peruvian weaving, spinning, and knitting classes, share sacred ceremonies, sway to music and dance, and mingle with kindred individuals who practice the very same textile techniques as their ancestors. That timeless time machine is the Tinkuy Gathering. To learn more, visit: Tinkuy2017.textilescusco.org

Your trip leaders, Jim 'Pecos' Petkiewicz and Cat Bordhi

We have a brother-sister relationship and have been leading groups of textile lovers to Latin America and Europe since 2013. We would love to share the depth of our experiences and relationships with you.

Pecos is a grass-roots philanthropist who has never been known to get cold and who has knit and gifted Felfitos and Moebius cowls all over the Americas. 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 language and cultural immersion programs in Bolivia and Peru beginning in 1986, Pecos and his wife Mags moved their young family to Oaxaca to work with community organizations dedicated to the protection of human rights, peace and justice, and democratic education, which evolved into the founding of their non-profit, Community Links International.

Cat is an inspiring teacher, designer, and story-teller who puts her students at ease while she nurtures the best in them. As one of her students wrote, "Your generosity of spirit and kind attention to everyone set the stage for all to grow and learn." Cat's 8 innovative knitting books, award-winning novel, *Treasure Forest*, and Youtube tutorials have reached nearly 5 million people. In 2003 she founded the collaborative Visionary Authors, fostering a stream of influential, spirited, and independently published knitting books. She has a BA in Russian from the University of California, a teaching credential from Western Washington University, and has done cartwheels in 9 different countries. More information, visit: catbordhi.com



Cost of this 15-day trip

The tour fee is \$6,255 and includes:

- 15 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.
- Full registration for the 4-day Tinkuy Gathering in Cusco, including three classes, lectures, hands-on presentations, music, dance, a drop-spindle competition, and social activities.
- 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 a lavish buffet lunch.
- Knitting sessions with Cat, and our travel pattern.
- Tips for hotels, drivers, guides, and group meals.

The tour fee does NOT include:

- Airfare from your home to Arequipa or from Cusco homeward.
- Most dinners and lunches.
- Incidentals like personal taxi rides, bottled water, snacks, personal items, 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

Cat and Pecos, 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.

A major attraction was the kind of people drawn to Cat and also a culture in which men knitting is not a rarity. There is an interest and acceptance that I don't usually see in the states. For instance, the teenage boys in the bus line in Aguas Calientes who might not have approached a woman knitting, but who stood in rapt attention close to my hands watching me. — Jamie, Wisconsin

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 (Saturday to Monday)



Saturday 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. *Sunday 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 lower garden for our first knitting workshop session. The lovely design Cat will teach, once underway, requires no directions and is ideal for carefree traveling and sharing with the curious Peruvian knitters you will meet if you spend time sitting and knitting in public.

We'll suggest restaurants and describe some nearby treasures (Plaza de Armas, Convento de Santa Catalina, Museo Santuarios Andinos, and much more), and then set you free for the rest of the day to explore as you wish. *Later today or Monday* you'll have the opportunity to take a Peruvian cooking class with our talented friend Chef Arthur, whose restaurant is just a few blocks away (and to feast on the results).



We'll also arrange for visits to Mundo Alpaca, which is a short stroll through a colonial neighborhood. You will be able to learn about, get cozy with, and feed several varieties of llamas and alpacas, caress and hold the rare vicuña fiber, see displays of all the stages of yarn-making, and watch a weaver at work. As always, there will be plenty of time for independent exploration and rest—a hallmark of our trips.

And then we fly to Cusco: November 7-12 (Tuesday to Saturday)

We'll be up early Tuesday morning to fly to Cusco, so we can enjoy most of the day in this charming ancient Incan city. Our hotel, El Balcón, sits a few blocks above the Plaza de Armas and the venue for the Tinkuy conference. 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).




TINKUY 2017
GATHERING OF THE TEXTILE ARTS
WEAVING THE PAST, PRESENT, & FUTURE

The Tinkuy Gathering begins Wednesday morning and continues through Saturday—four days of profound communion amongst like-minded human beings from all over the world. From



the upper balconies the sea of humanity below in the courtyard resembles schools of swirling colorful tropical fish—each village wearing their distinctive and intricate costumes. For each attendee, whether they traveled from a remote Andean village, or from another country like us, being here is a heart-opening, life-changing honor. You will take textile classes from indigenous teachers, be part of sacred ceremonies, attend

concerts and dance performances, lectures, and be swept up in an intricate and timeless stream of traditional weaving, knitting, and spinning that is the stuff of legends.

For more details, visit: [HTTP://TINKUY2017.TEXTILESCUSCO.ORG](http://tinkuy2017.textilescusco.org)

Onward to Ollantaytambo and Machu Picchu: November 12-14 (Sunday to Tuesday)

Sunday morning our friend and professional 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 a very short stroll from 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.



Afterward 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: a grand 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 bring you back to Ollantaytambo to settle your tired self into your welcoming hotel room.

On Tuesday you're free to explore this ancient village 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 traditional Pachamanca, a feast of organic vegetables and meats roasted underground in layers of wood-heated stones. This savory, sensual experience that will stay with you forever, and you will wish your camera could capture flavors!



And back to Cusco and El Balcón: November 15-18 (Wednesday to Saturday)



Wednesday 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 Albergue's master chefs while marveling at the beauty stretched out before us. Once back in Cusco, you can continue exploring the endless attractions of this city which will forever hold the magic of Tinkuy. Now you have time to see some of the beautiful places you glimpsed during those days.

On Thursday there is an optional tour with our friend Melquiades to Andahuaylillas, a famous, beautifully restored church about 45 minutes away. *Friday evening* we will share a *cena de despedida*, a farewell dinner, in our hotel restaurant and reminisce, marvel at the blessing of the friendships that are now ours, and weave our fond memories together.

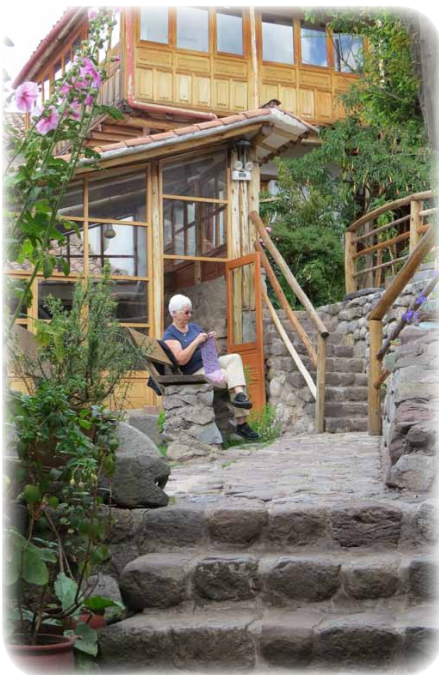


Saturday is departure day.

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.



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 Pecos 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. Pecos would love to tell you more (email him at PECKOS@ME.COM). The fees for this trip help support CLI. We thank you for helping make our world kinder, more compassionate, and more functional.



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

REGISTRATION FOR "SOJOURN IN PERU, WITH THE RARE BLESSING OF THE TINKUY GATHERING"
WITH PECOS AND CAT, NOVEMBER 4-18, 2017

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.

\$6,255 for double occupancy, sharing with _____

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 Cat at CAT@CATBORDHI.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 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 Pecos at PECKOS@ME.COM (alternatively you may make a copy and send it with this form). If your photo does not really look like you today, please also send a current photo so we can recognize you when we pick you up.

**“SOJOURN IN PERU, WITH THE RARE BLESSING OF THE TINKUY GATHERING”
WITH PECOS AND CAT, NOVEMBER 4-18, 2017**

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 Cat Bordhi, 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 Cat Bordhi, 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 Cat Bordhi, 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