



Family Project Peru

Information Packet

Location: Lima, Peru

Project Dates: December 19 - 29, 2019

Optional Excursion: December 29 - 31, 2019

Project Participation Fee: \$800

Children 12 and under: \$650

(Age determined on the start date of the project)

Optional Excursion Fee: \$575

**All amounts listed in document are in U.S. dollars.*

International flights are not included in the participation fee



Maranatha in Peru

The Seventh-day Adventist message came into Peru in the early 1900s and continued to spread rapidly. By 2004, the Adventist Church in Peru was thriving and one of the fastest growing Adventist memberships worldwide. However, they didn't have the church buildings to accommodate such growth. So 2004, the church leadership requested Maranatha's assistance. Maranatha completed nearly 100 churches in Peru from 2004 until 2006.

In 2018, Maranatha received another request for 1,000 churches and school classrooms in Peru from the Adventist Church in South America. The structures that Maranatha built in the mid 2000s have resulted in further membership growth, leaving the Church in Peru once in need of more space for worship and education. Maranatha agreed to help and projects will begin in December 2019.

Project Overview

Volunteers on this project will be the first to serve in this new effort in Peru. For this mission trip, we'll be working just outside of Lima near the city of Ñaña. Here, volunteers on Maranatha's Christmas Family Project, in 2005, constructed a large Education and Evangelism Center, which serves as an elementary school on the same campus as the Universidad Peruana Unión, an Adventist University. Volunteers will help with annual maintenance by painting the exterior of this large building.

Project Schedule

Thursday, December 19

Arrival in Lima, Peru

Friday, December 20

Orientation and first work day

Saturday, December 21

Worship with the local congregations

Sunday - Tuesday, December 22-24

Work days

Wednesday, December 25

Partial work day, afternoon Christmas activities

Thursday, December 26

Work day

Friday, December 27

Fly to Juliaca

Saturday, December 28

Worship with the Los Uros congregation on Lake Titicaca

Sunday, December 29

Departure from Juliaca or continue on the optional excursion.

OPTIONAL EXCURSION

Sunday, December 29

Travel via bus to the Sacred Valley

Monday, December 30

Travel by train to Machu Picchu. Explore Cusco in the afternoon.

Tuesday, December 31

Departure from Cusco, Peru

In addition, volunteers will work at the nearby Huaycan church, where they will construct Sabbath school classrooms using brick construction. The group will also paint a nearby church called La Alameda that was built by Maranatha volunteers in 2004. This church has grown extensively and now has three daughter churches.

In addition to painting and construction, volunteers will also organize medical and dental clinics, along with health education programs. This outreach is dependent on the volunteers who register for this project. If you are a medical professional and interested in being a part of the clinic, please contact Maranatha.

About the Family Project

Each year, Maranatha offers at least two mission projects specifically for families. One takes place in the summer, and the other is during Christmas. Designed to accommodate volunteers of any age—from two to 82—the project is an excellent alternative to a theme-park family vacation or gift-centered holiday. Volunteers who participate say the experience has not only broadened their perspective on the world, it's also brought them closer together as a family. Families of all types and sizes are welcome, and individuals are also welcome to join. Family projects fill up very quickly, so register early if you are interested in joining this mission trip!

Children at the Project Site

We have different expectations for young volunteers, depending on their age and maturity. We expect children ages 13 or older to put in a full day of work, whether it's on the construction site, in the kitchen, or with outreach activities. Children 12 years and under may help with construction, but they must work under the supervision of a parent or designated adult.

For younger volunteers, Maranatha will have a day camp with different activities organized during the work hours (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.), which could include the following:

Work | We'll plan simple tasks so kids can put in a few hours on the construction site.

Play | We'll schedule time for kids to let loose and have fun, because playtime is an important part of being a kid. Children's activities may include swimming one or two days during the project.

Cultural Experiences | We'll introduce kids to local customs, such as visiting a marketplace or washing clothes in a river.

Outreach | We'll encourage kids to help with children's ministry programs and other service activities.

We won't necessarily have all of these components every day, but these categories will make up the activities available for young volunteers. Parents can drop their child off with the program leaders, stay with their child, or keep their child with them throughout the day.

Flexibility

"FLEXIBILITY" is the one keyword that will be necessary in all that we do on this mission trip. It's not the purpose of the mission trip, but it will be necessary to achieve our purpose. While we make plans, we can pretty much guarantee that there will be surprises that will force us to adapt. Your flexibility could be tested by things like jet lag, roommates, the weather, and last minute schedule changes. If we aren't flexible, we'll have plenty to feel miserable about, and we will lose out on multiple opportunities to serve others and improve ourselves.

By going on a Maranatha mission trip, you are putting yourself in a great environment for growth but that means changes in your life. FLEXIBILITY enables you to grow without breaking. By all means, bring FLEXIBILITY with you because you'll need it just about every day.

Accommodations

During the project, volunteers will stay in the girls dorm at the Universidad Peruana Union, the Adventist University located just outside of Lima, about two hours from the airport.

For our family projects, we aim for 1-2-star housing arrangements because they are adequate, safe, and clean, and it keeps the participation fee manageable for families. We mention this in advance so you can adjust your expectations as it will likely be a lower standard than where you currently reside.

Each dorm room has four beds (two bunk beds) with bedding and towels. Washcloths are not commonly provided in Peru, so you may want to take your own. While a few rooms have bathrooms in the dorm room itself, the majority of rooms will only have access to bathrooms and showers down the hall. You may want to bring a robe and shower bag to make this easier. The bathrooms currently have cold water, but we are hoping to have hot water installed by the time the project takes place.

There is a WiFi connection on campus, but the connection is unpredictable and slower than what you probably have at home. You should be able to send an email, but you probably won't be able to video chat or stream anything. The campus also has a swimming pool that volunteers will have access to on occasion. The group will eat meals and have worship together on the university campus. Volunteers will travel to work sites by private bus.

Volunteers should plan on staying with one to four roommates. For larger families, we will add one or two mattresses on the floor or give your family more than one room. If you would like to room with someone in particular, please let us know prior to the final deadline of the project. At this time, single occupancy rooms are not available because we anticipate filling this project. However, if you'd like to be on the waiting list for this, please contact Maranatha, and we can make a note to let you know if single occupancy rooms become available.

On the excursion, volunteers will stay at nicer hotels in Puno, the Sacred Valley, and Cusco.

Excursion - Lake Titicaca

Maranatha projects usually include a short excursion as part of the Maranatha experience and/or an extended excursion as an optional add-on. If you choose to add any trips in addition to those provided by Maranatha, please plan to do those either before or after the Maranatha project dates so you won't miss out on any part of the Maranatha experience.

On the final Friday, volunteers will fly across the country to southern Peru. This flight is not included. Please see the Travel Information section for the specific flight you should book. Volunteers will stay in Puno, a town on the edge of Lake Titicaca, the world's highest navigable body of water (at 12,500 feet) famous for man-made islands made of reeds. It is on among these reed islands where Maranatha built a "floating church" more than a decade ago. Volunteers will have a chance to worship with one of the Adventist congregations, take a short trip in a reed boat, and enjoy the scenery. In the afternoon, volunteers can relax at the lakeside hotel or travel to a nearby town to visit the Fernando Stahl museum; Fernando and Ana Stahl brought the Adventist message to the Lake Titicaca region of Peru. On Sunday morning, volunteers can depart for home from Juliaca or continue on the optional excursion to Machu Picchu.

Optional Excursion - Machu Picchu - \$575

At the end of the project, volunteers can choose to extend their stay in Peru by joining an optional excursion to visit the world-famous Incan ruins of Machu Picchu. This excursion has an additional fee of \$575. The fee will cover two nights at a luxury hotel, food, ground transportation, insurance, and all entrance fees and tour guides during the excursion days. The excursion price is for double occupancy rooms. If you would like a single occupancy room, the fee is \$150.

On Sunday morning, volunteers will travel about seven hours by tourist coach bus to the Sacred Valley region of Peru. The following day, the group will take a train to Aguas Calientes, which is located at the entrance to

the ruins of Machu Picchu. Machu Picchu has been voted one of the “New” Seven Wonders of the World and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This Incan city was built in 1450 as an estate for the Incan emperor, and it was abandoned approximately 100 years later during the Spanish Conquest. It is truly a sight to behold as you come up over the hill and gaze into the ruins below. The mountain peak of Huayna Picchu stands above the city, and alpacas roam around the grassy plateaus. Volunteers will explore the ruins, learning about Incan life, before returning to Cusco that afternoon. Cusco and the surrounding area is one of the most popular tourist destinations in Peru, and the group will get a chance to explore the city’s highlights and the local markets before departing on Tuesday morning.

Leadership

Kenneth Weiss | Project Coordinator

Kenneth joins the group from Davis, California, where he serves as Maranatha’s executive vice president. He and his wife Brenda, along with their three kids, Adrienne, Corbin, and Ashton, have joined several Maranatha projects around the world, often serving in leadership positions. The Weiss family enjoy spending time outdoors as a family. They are looking forward to joining the Family Project and serving alongside other families over Christmas.



Danny Poljak | Construction Superintendent

Danny joins the group from Roseville, California, where he works in the construction industry. He has served with Maranatha on multiple Family Projects as well as other Maranatha mission trips. He is joined by his wife Branka and his daughter Anella, who has practically grown up on Maranatha’s Family Projects. Danny is enthusiastic that something tangible like a building can be so transformative to a congregation and community. When not on a Maranatha project, Danny enjoys scuba diving and biking. Danny will be leading one of the construction sites.



Jeff and Vicky Wesslen | Construction Superintendent and Day Camp Leader

Jeff and Vicky join the group from Spokane, Washington. Jeff first joined Maranatha when he was eight and traveled with his father to Mexico to build a school. After college, he felt the call to return to missions and eventually worked full time as an in-country construction coordinator for Maranatha for about ten years. It was while working in Peru that he met Vicky. They got married and now have two young children, Mia and Micah. In 2017 they joined Maranatha’s Family Project to Panama. And they are especially excited to join this year’s Family Project since the group will be working on the campus of UPeU where Vicky graduated from college and Jeff lived for many years. Jeff will be leading one of the construction sites and Vicky will coordinate the day camp activities for children 12 and under.



We Need Your Help

The team is looking for a children’s ministry leader who can help put together and lead a Vacation Bible School or interactive health education program for the local kids. If you are interested in leading out in this area, please contact Maranatha at (916) 774-7799.

Expenses

All amounts listed are in U.S. dollars.

The participation fee of \$800 covers housing, three vegetarian meals a day, ground transportation to and from the airport and project site, translators, local excursions, short-term travel insurance, a Maranatha t-shirt, and luggage tags. The project participation fee is tax-deductible. The optional excursion fee of \$575 is not tax-deductible.

Maranatha must receive all funds and forms by November 11, 2019, due to application processing time. Wait for confirmation of acceptance on the project before purchasing your airfare.

Payments can be made by cash or check sent to the Maranatha office in California (please include your name and "Family Project Peru Dec 2019") or by credit or debit card online or over the phone.

For Canadian tax-deductible receipts, payments must be made by check to the Maranatha Volunteers International (Canada) Association (address located at the end of this information packet). At this time, Maranatha cannot issue tax-deductible receipts for credit card payments.

If you are fundraising or receiving donations, please either have donations sent directly to you or work with your local church treasurer to collect funds and issue tax-deductible receipts, since it is difficult for Maranatha to track individual small checks. If your church will not work with you, please wait until you have collected the full amount for your participation fee before submitting it to Maranatha.

Estimate of Additional Costs

- **International Flight to and from Peru: \$1200 - 1800**
- **Domestic Flight from Lima to Juliaca: \$150**
- **Passport: \$130 or \$110 for renewal**

About Peru

Peru is located in South America, along the western coast. Peru is the quintessential South American country—a land of magnificent lost cities and a rich cultural heritage. Its history and natural beauty make it a popular destination for travelers.

From the 13th century until the Spanish conquest in the 16th century, the Incan Empire ruled much of the Andean region with a population in the tens of millions. In the mid 1500s, Spanish conquistadors defeated the Incan Empire and forced many of the indigenous people into slavery. In 1821, José de San Martín occupied Lima and declared Peruvian independence. After dozens of years of military rule and a civil war, Peru returned to democratic leadership in 1980. Today Peru is the 48th largest economy in the world. However, this economic boom has not benefited every Peruvian, and there are still impoverished communities in more rural areas of the country.

The Quechua and Aymara people, two cultural groups that descended from the Incas, have carefully preserved and developed their cultures. In much of Peru, specifically the Andean highlands, you will find women dressed in brightly colored pleated skirts, called polleras, shirts with intricate embroidery, and bowling hats. When



Facts and Figures

Capital: Lima

Population: 31.3 million (July 2018)

Language: Spanish, Quechua, Aymara

Climate: Varies by region and altitude. Dry in the west, tropical in the east, temperate to frigid in the Andes

Religion: Catholic 60%, Protestant 15%, Unspecified 21%
Currency: Peruvian Sol

Spain ruled over the region, much of the local culture was mixed with Spanish culture to create a unique blend of Hispanic and native traditions, which you can see in the country's artwork and dance. Today, many young people have moved from the rural areas to the urban centers on the coast. Once they arrive, they often adopt western clothing, music, and culture; much of the old way of life is left behind.

Peru is a country of astounding natural diversity. The country has three distinct regions: the Amazon Basin to the northeast, the mountainous highlands down the center of the country, and the western coastline characterized by a narrow band of deserts and fertile valleys where the rivers meet the ocean. In each of these regions the landscape and climate varies drastically.

Travel Information

Volunteers will purchase their own plane tickets to the city of Lima. If you arrive or depart outside the posted time frames, you may have long wait times at the airport or be responsible for paying additional transportation costs for your individual airport transfer.

Please complete the online registration and wait for confirmation from Maranatha before purchasing your airfare to ensure there is still space on the project. Volunteers will travel together, by bus, to the project location.

Flights

This project arrives in and departs from different cities. It also requires booking a specific domestic flight. Please be careful to follow these flight guidelines when booking your travel.

Arrival | Please arrive in Lima (airport code LIM) on Thursday, December 19. Evening arrivals from 6:00 p.m. to 11:59 p.m. are preferred, although we will accommodate morning flights arriving after 5:00 a.m. Please note that there are no planned activities for December 19 until dinner that evening.

Departure (Project Only) | Please book the following flights:

- LATAM Airlines #2097 from Lima (LIM) to Juliaca (JUL) departing from Lima at 10:51 a.m. and arriving in Juliaca at 12:27 p.m. on Friday, December 27.
- Please depart for home from Juliaca (JUL) in the morning or early afternoon of Sunday, December 29. No activities are planned after breakfast, and the rest of the group will depart early by bus for Machu Picchu.

Departure (Optional Excursion) | Please book the following flights:

- LATAM Airlines #2097 from Lima (LIM) to Juliaca (JUL) departing from Lima at 10:51 a.m. and arriving in Juliaca at 12:27 p.m. on Friday, December 27.
- Please depart for home from Cusco (CUZ) in the morning or early afternoon of Tuesday, December 31. No activities are planned after breakfast.

Arriving Early or Staying Late?

Peru has some beautiful travel destinations. Some of you may choose to arrive earlier than December 19 or stay beyond December 31 to explore the country on your own. Since our volunteers bring so much to the shared experience of the project, we ask that volunteers be a part of the entire Maranatha project during the advertised dates. Please plan any additional travel before or after the Maranatha project dates to avoid mid-project interruptions. Those choosing to add additional travel are responsible for making their own hotel and transportation arrangements for the time outside of the arrival and departure windows listed above. If you have any questions, feel free to call Maranatha at (916) 774-7700.

Travel Resources

CI Azumano Travel: 800-454-4099 or by email with Erle Dpenha or Azumano Team at corporatetravel@ciazumano.com

Butler Travel: 503-879-5005 or by email with Nathanael at nathan@butlertravel.com or with Ellen at ellen@butlertravel.com.

Kayak: www.kayak.com

When contacting the Azumano or Butler travel agencies, mention Maranatha to receive a discounted service charge.

Entry Requirements

Below are the requirements for United States (U.S.) and Canadian citizens. If you hold a passport from another country, please consult the Peruvian embassy or consulate in your home country for entrance requirements.

Passport | All passports must be valid for at least six months from the dates of intended travel (June 30, 2020). If you do not have a passport, U.S. citizens can apply at any U.S. post office or online at <http://travel.state.gov>. Canadian citizens can apply online at www.passport.gc.ca. It can take up to two months to complete the entire process, so plan accordingly to give yourself enough time to receive your passport.

Traveling With Minors

If you are traveling with a legal minor (under the age of 18 on the date you depart), both parents or legal guardians must travel with the minor. Otherwise, you must have two parental consent forms notarized. This provides government entities with evidence that both guardians have consented to their child leaving the country with the other guardian and Maranatha. One original must be mailed to Maranatha, and the other original must stay with you while you travel. If a parent is divorced, the missing parent still needs to sign the form unless the parent traveling with the minor has sole legal custody. In that case, a copy of the divorce paperwork, indicating sole custody, must be included. If a parent has died, a copy of the death certificate must be included.

You can download a PDF of the Parental Consent Form at <http://www.maranatha.org/resources>. This form will ask for two people as appointees of the minor. The first appointee will be the guardian traveling with the child. The other will be Kenneth Weiss, Maranatha's project coordinator for the Family Project.

Staying Healthy

Maranatha requires every volunteer to have a current tetanus vaccine (within the last 10 years). The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) also recommend vaccines for typhoid and hepatitis A. For certain destinations below 7,500 feet elevation, the CDC also recommends the yellow fever vaccine as well as a malaria preventative vaccine other than chloroquine. Lima and Cusco are not in these regions, so you should not need them for this specific project.

You may already have some of these vaccinations, and they may still be good for this trip. Others you may deem unnecessary for this trip. Maranatha recommends that you schedule a consultation with your physician or a travel clinic to discuss the medical risks in Peru and the ways to minimize them.

Altitude Sickness

Many parts of southeastern Peru are located in the Andes mountain range at very high elevations. Cusco and Lake Titicaca are both located at more than 11,000 feet. This high elevation puts visitors at risk for altitude sickness. Altitude sickness is a medical condition with symptoms ranging from a mild headache, dizziness, shortness of breath, and nausea to very serious cerebral or pulmonary edema. Rapid onset of symptoms, worsening symptoms, or symptoms persisting more than 48 hours could require evacuation to a lower elevation.

Altitude sickness can occur when ascending too fast and not allowing time to acclimatize to the elevation. Also, those with preexisting conditions such as hypertension, diabetes, asthma, or cardiac or lung disease should receive special clearance from their doctor or avoid traveling to high elevations during the project.

Some Maranatha projects will take place in high-altitude regions. Due to the potential risks, each participant on Maranatha projects in Peru is required to return a signed consent form prior to your departure (depending on the exact project location).

How to Register

To register, please complete the online registration and pay the full participation fee or an initial deposit for at least half the total participation fee. You can make this payment by credit card online, over the phone, or with a check made out to Maranatha Volunteers International and mailed to the address below. If for any reason you need to cancel your participation, Maranatha will do our best to refund your deposit up until one month before travel. After that point, \$150 is non-refundable, and the remainder will depend on the reservations and the project arrangements already made.

Register online at Maranatha.org or over the phone.

Contact Information

Phone: (916) 774-7700

Fax: (916) 774-7701

Email: volunteer@maranatha.org

Website: www.maranatha.org

Mailing Address:

Maranatha Volunteers International
990 Reserve Drive
Suite 100
Roseville, CA 95678

Canadian Payments Only:

Maranatha Volunteers International Association
c/o V06494C
PO Box 6494, Station Terminal
Vancouver, BC V6B 6R3

Social Media

Share your mission trip with family and friends! And be sure to tag us on social media!



@maranathavolunteersinternational



@gomaranatha



@maranatha

Use our hashtag,
#maranathavolunteersinternational
when posting, so we can feature
your trip!

THE MARANATHA STORE

BUY MARANATHA MERCHANDISE!

Share the spirit of service with Maranatha-themed apparel and accessories.*

2019 MARANATHA T-SHIRT \$10



The 2019 Maranatha shirt features a 50th anniversary logo on the sleeve, made with a poly/cotton heather blend by Bella + Canvas. Mens cut only; color is "heather deep teal."

HARD HAT \$13



This MSA V-Gard hard hat, with Staz-On suspension, ensures excellent shock absorption on the job site.

MARANATHA.ORG

*All confirmed volunteers on an International Maranatha Open Team receive a Maranatha t-shirt as part of their participation fee.



**TO ORDER, VISIT [MARANATHA.ORG/STORE](https://maranatha.org/store)
OR CALL (916) 774-7700**

All prices are excluding sales tax and shipping.

CAP \$12



All cotton and easy to pack, this cap is sure to keep the sun off your face on a mission project and at home. Available in Khaki and Navy.

WATER BOTTLE \$15



The autospout water bottle by Contigo features a one-touch-button spout for convenient one-handed drinking. It also has a spout shield to protect the spout from debris and dirt when not in use—perfect for the project site.

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