

New Tour Across Peru

Puerto Maldonado to Nasca

A new tour is being planned across Peru for October 2016. This will be one of our longest and most ambitious adventures across the Andes we have organized. We will begin the tour by flying toward the border of Brazil to the jungle town of Puerto Maldonado. From there we begin cycling west and gradually climb higher into the Andes Mountains.

Each day averages about 100 KM (62 miles) and climbs 5,000 feet. By the third day we sleep in a town located at 10,000 feet. The next day we crossover a 15,000 foot summit. On the fifth day we arrive in the ancient Inca capital city of Cusco. We will have a rest day and a chance to visit the ruins at Machu Picchu.

During the next six days we will cross twelve passes from 12,000 to 15,000 feet. Most of the towns where we stay are located in the valleys at 7,000 to 8,000 feet elevation. Each day starts with a long 5,000 foot climb out of the valley and ends with a fast descent into the final hotel. The scenery has been described as "double Colorado" because of the deep valleys surrounded by 20,000 foot mountains.

The tour will end in the desert city of Nasca with a final 10,000 foot drop into town. We will have eleven cycling days covering a total of about 1,200 kilometers. During the tour we will sleep at hotels and local homes. Sleeping conditions will range from very good hotels to rooms with an outdoor bathroom (2 nights). We will have a support van to carry our gearbags and provide rest stop support along the way. Many of our meals will be in roadside restaurants which are common along the highway. Road conditions range from good to excellent so road bikes with 25mm tires and low gears (34 x 28) are recommended.

Another highlight of the tour is that we will be joined by several Peruvian riders from the Junior Cycling Team. They will be riding the tour as part of a National Cycling Federation promotion called "We Can Do It". The young riders will represent the five regions of

Peru (Jungle, Highlands, North, South and Coastal Region). The promotion will generate national coverage as an example of the amazing things that can be accomplished on a bicycle. We expect daily radio, newspaper and television coverage. This will also be a great cultural exchange for our tour members to be able to ride with with so many self motivated young adults.

At the conclusion of our tour we will take a bus back to the city of Lima. Riders can depart home or stay the next weekend for the annual Gringo Race. This is a two day stage race with a road race and a downtown criterium. The race will attract 200 riders of all ages. We typically supply several hundred cycling jerseys, shorts and parts for race prizes that have been donated to the PAC Tour Peru Fund. If we have extra bicycles from our bike tour we usually donate the bikes as race prizes as well.

This tour over the Andes will be an excellent mix of cycling and Peruvian culture. More details and prices will be listed on the PAC Tour website soon.