

# Scripture Union, Peru

## Orientation Booklet and Guidelines



# Contents

- Welcome to Peru – page 3
- Peru – the country – page 4
- History of Peru – page 6
- Scripture Union – page 8
- SU, Peru - locations – page 11
- Culture & what to expect – page 13
- Mission and the Bible – page 14
- Your trip with SU, Peru – page 16

## Welcome to Peru!



On behalf of us all at Scripture Union Peru, I want to welcome you and thank you for sharing your time to make a lasting difference by contributing to our ministries.

We are pleased that you have chosen to serve God here and we hope that you have a memorable experience. Whether you are making adobe bricks, playing football with the kids or enjoying the beauty of creation around you, we pray that God will be at work in your heart. Be assured that you will leave a mark as you pass through – every hug you give and every moment spent with the children will help remind them that they are special to God and not worthless and dispensable as many of them have come to believe.

Thank you again for coming to help us build a small part of God's kingdom in Peru.

Billy Clark  
Director of International Relations

## Peru – the country



Peru is the third largest country in Latin America, after Brazil and Argentina. It has one of the most varied and diverse landscapes in the world. From the coastal deserts to the high mountains and to the equatorial rainforest, there is a vast range of eco systems and microclimates. The beauty and diversity of Peru is incredible.

The country is divided into 3 distinct regions are known as “costa, sierra, selva” (coast, mountain, jungle)



### Coast:

The coastal region of Peru is the western, narrow strip of the country that runs alongside the Pacific Ocean. The capital of Peru, Lima is located in the coastal region and is home to about 9 million people. Although the coastal region only takes up 11% of the country, it is home to 44%

The arid coastal region stretches 620 miles (1,000 km) along the Pacific coast. The northern tip of the world’s driest desert (the Atacama) is found in southern Peru.

Nothing grows in this coastal region unless water is brought in from elsewhere and even the coastal river valleys are dependent on rainfall in the sierra.

### Mountains:

The magnificent Andes mountains run through the centre of Peru. Mt. Huascarán, stands 22,200 feet (6,768m) above sea level and fits perfectly into the picturesque landscape that adorns the surroundings of our boy’s home at Kusi.

The high altitudes in this region make the air thin and the terrain rugged, providing obstacles to transportation, communication and development.

About 50% of Peruvians live in the sierra, mainly eeking out a living as subsistence farmers.

## Jungle:

About 60% of Peru's is jungle although home to only about 6% of the population.

Where the Andes fall away to the East, steep sided valleys lead down to sub tropical lowlands known as the "selva alta" (high jungle) where much of Peru's coca is produced. The foothills of the Andes eventually become the "selva baja" – the low jungle of the Amazon.

The main city of the jungle is Iquitos which is only accessible by plane or boat. From the air, it looks like a carpet of green, broken up only by the muddy brown meandering of the mighty river Amazon and its tributaries.. The Amazon is the widest river in the world, ranging between 6-10km wide. On its own, the Amazon produces 20% of water that flows into the sea.

## Peru is amazing!

- The highest navigable lake in the world, Lake Titicaca is found in the south of Peru at 12,725 feet (3,856m) above sea level.
- South America's fourth highest mountain and Peru's highest (Huascarán – see photo to the right) sits at 22,200 feet (6,768m) above sea level.
- The world's greatest river system, the Amazon, runs through Peru.
- The world's deepest canyons, Cotahuasi at a depth of 9,842 feet (3,000m) deep and Colca at 10,499 feet (3,200m) lie outside Arequipa.



## The People of Peru

Peru is a melting pot of indigenous Andean people (45%), Europeans (15%), Mestizos (37%) and Afro-Peruvians and Asians (3%).

The total population is about 28.6 million people with around 73% of them living in the cities. A third of the whole population lives in Lima. Peru is highly divided socially with many living in extreme poverty while a few enjoy wealth and luxury that rival standards in the US and Europe. As migrants have moved to the cities in search of work, shanty towns (pueblos jóvenes) have developed and over the years many of these have become structured communities with basic services such as electricity and water.

# History of Peru



This is a very brief overview of some of the key stages of Peruvian history. For more information, we recommend the Lonely Planet.

## **Initial Period – 1800 – 800BC**

Irrigation and agriculture initiated, with maize as the staple food. Simple weaving techniques emerge.

## **Early Horizon Period – 800 – 300BC**

The Chavín culture brings innovations in textiles, metallurgy and carving.

## **Early Intermediate Period – 300BC – AD600**

Nazca and Moche cultures develop. First Nazca lines. Las Huacas del Sol y de la Luna.

## **Middle Horizon Period – AD600- 1000**

The Wari (or Huari) culture exerts its influence in Peru. c. AD1000, the Sipán culture produces intricate gold, silver and copper work.

## **Late Intermediate Period - AD1000 – 1470**

Various cultures emerge – Chimú, Chachapoyas, Chancas and the Incas being the most important. The Chimú people built Chan Chan, the largest adobe city in the world.

## **Inca Empire – 1438 – 1532**

1438 – the Incas extend their empire from Cusco after winning a decisive battle against the Chancas.

1527 – Civil war ensues in the Inca Empire, between 2 half brothers – Huáscar in Cusco and Atahualpa in Quito. Atahualpa emerges victorious just before the arrival of the Spanish.

## **Spanish Conquest – 1532 – 1569**

Francisco Pizarro leads the Spanish into Peru in 1532 and in 1533 executes Atahualpa. In 1535, Pizarro founds Lima as the capital of the Viceroyalty of Peru. Pizarro is assassinated in 1541 by Almagro supporters. Also Spanish, but opposing Pizarro. In 1569, Túpac Amaru, the last Inca is killed.

## The Colonial Period – 1569 – 1821

In 1570 Francisco de Toledo becomes the 5<sup>th</sup> viceroy and introduces systems that enslave the local indigenous people to their Spanish masters.

In 1600s, a Catholic campaign attempts to stamp out native religions and results in many traditional beliefs and rites being given a Christian veneer.

1700 – the Colonial system is firmly established.

Late 1700s – rebellions against the Spanish start to begin.

1820 – San Martin starts his plan to liberate Peru, after his success in Chile.

## Modern History – 1821 – today

1821 - San Martin declares independence for Peru.

1824 - 1826 Simon Bolivar is president.

1826 - 1865 35 presidents in 40 years (political turmoil).

1879 - 1883 War of the Pacific with Chile (southern coastal Peru was annexed to Chile.

1960s - 70s - Series of military dictatorships.

1980s - mid 90s The Shinning Path terrorist movement (Sendero Luminoso) become a serious threat, resulting in the death of more than 60,000 Peruvians.

1985 - Alan Garcia wins the election. His presidency is marked by hyper inflation.

1990 - 2000 The Fujimori years, resulting in improved economic conditions but ultimately ending in proof of bribery and corruption (videos).

2001 - Alejandro Toledo, voted president, is the first president with an Indian heritage.

2006 - 2011 Alan García is re-elected to power. The country is more stable than it has ever been with a rising middle class although there are still signs of great poverty in the suburbs and mountain areas.

April 2011 - Presidential elections ... Watch this space!

1822-1822



1822



1822-1825



1825-1950



1950-



## Scripture Union

Scripture Union is an international movement that began over 140 years ago. It is now present in over 120 countries making God's good news known to children, young people and families and encouraging people of all ages to meet God daily through Bible reading and prayer.



Our work in Peru dates back to 1927. We serve some of the neediest areas of society in 22 departments across Peru, with a variety of different ministries.

## Schools and Camps

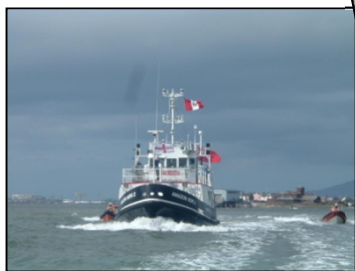


We work in 270 state schools across the country, teaching Christian Values to 39,000 students each year. Our prayer is that they receive the word of God into their lives. We also work with a number of different INABIF centres (government run children's homes) and reach an estimated 2500 parents Christian Value seminars.

During the school holidays we run over 50 camps in 12 different locations. These generally last about 5 days and combine Biblical teaching and fun and games.

This work is carried out by 16 full time staff workers and a mini army of 250 volunteers.

## Medical Ministry



We have 2 medical ships that were built in the UK; the Amazon Hope 1 and Amazon Hope 2. The ships sail throughout the Peruvian Amazon Basin, offering frequent and free medical service to its communities. Through this program, we reach over 50,000 people living in extreme poverty and our goal is to reach 100,000.

In Iquitos we also have a medical clinic, serving the people in the shanty town of Belén. We are able to offer medical service to the local dwellers, with the support of 12-18 medical teams that come from the UK and the US each year.

We work in partnership with the Vine Trust of Scotland, the Peruvian Ministry of Health and the Peruvian Navy.

## Abandoned Boys



We work with abandoned boys, often the victims of extreme poverty, domestic violence and physical abuse on the streets. These boys are loathed by society and live in inhumane conditions. Once we have rescued a boy from the streets, the long process of restoration begins. The peace and tranquillity around them, along with affection, routine, good food, health, education, "houseparents" and educators, help to kindle a substantial change in a boy's life. What we long and pray for, is that each boy will enter into a personal relationship with Jesus and be able to move forward confidently, leaving his past behind.

We are registered with MINDES (a government body) and work closely with the INABIFs as well as maintaining regular contact with the National Police and other authorities.

## Deaf Programme



Deaf children have a right, like everyone, to their own language (sign language) and culture. We teach them sign language as well as re-enforce the education they receive from the mainstream schools where they are given very little support.

We look to apply different linguistic and cultural models to their education, aiming at changing the current system of how deaf children should be educated and trying to give them the opportunity to fully develop.

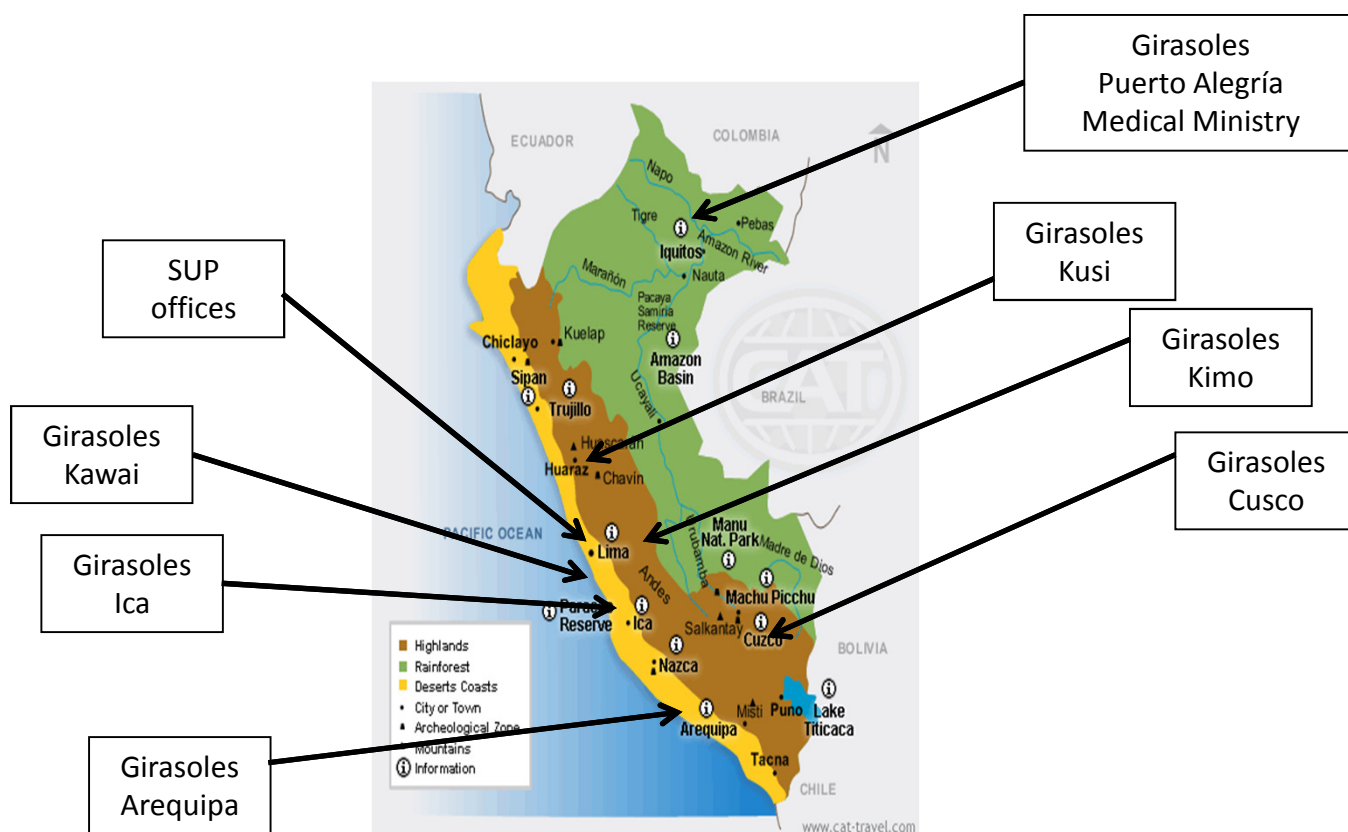
Sign language is a visual language for deaf people which develops through contact with one another and allows them to communicate and learn.

We also offer interpretation services. The objective of this is to allow a deaf person access to communication, just like anyone else. We try to facilitate the communication between a deaf and hearing person by translating from an audible language (Spanish) to a visual language (signs) or vice versa.

## Bible Use

Scripture Union across the world is committed to ensuring the word of God reaches different people in different languages. Here in Peru we work with other Spanish speaking countries in the Americas, to produce Bible reading notes to help people in their personal walk with God.

# Scripture Union Peru - Locations



## Puerto Alegria:

Our Girasoles home for abandoned boys is located an hour from the city of **Iquitos** on the Itaya river. Located in the middle of the Amazonian rainforest, Iquitos is the largest city in the world that is only accessible by boat or air. The port of Iquitos, Belén, is home to our Medical Centre and to our ships.

## Kusi:

High up in the beautiful Andes at the foot of the Huascarán, the highest mountain in Peru, is our Girasoles home, Kusi. The town of **Yungay**, about 2km away and an hour's drive from **Huaráz**, the regional capital. The area was subject to a devastating earthquake in 1970 which you will hear more about during your time here .

## Scripture Union Peru - Locations

### **Kimo:**

Our most recent home to be opened at Kimo, is located about 15 minutes away from **La Merced in Chanchamayo** – famous for its coffee and fruit. Kimo is also a campsite with bungalows for rent for tourists and schools groups, wishing to explore this part of Peru's jungle and the amazing waterfalls located nearby.

### **Cusco:**

**Cusco** is possibly the most famous city in Peru, former capital of the Inca Empire and today the gateway to Machu Picchu. Our Girasoles home is only an hour away from **Urubamba** in the Sacred Valley of the Incas. In 2010, the home was washed away by floods but is now being re-built once again.

### **Arequipa:**

We are developing a new Girasoles about 3 hours outside of **Arequipa** in the town of **Chivay** – gateway to the famous Colca Canyon.

### **Ica:**

In the heart of the Atacama, the driest desert on earth, lies the town of **Ica**. In 2007, this region was subject to the biggest earthquake to hit Peru in recent years. Soon afterwards in early 2008, our home here was opened both for boys orphaned as a result of the earthquake and boys abandoned by their parents.

### **Kawai:**

An hour south of **Lima** is camp Kawai. Located on a picturesque stretch of beach, Kawai offers camping facilities for groups of all sizes and is home to another Girasoles facility.

### **Lima:**

The capital of Peru, home to about 9 million people, is also where we have our main offices and where the deaf centre functions.

## Culture and what to expect.....



Peruvian Culture is very different to what you are used to. As you are only here for a short time, you may not immediately notice it but there are some key things to be aware of and be prepared for:

- **Greetings** - it is customary to greet people in a formal way by saying “Buenos Dias”, “Buenas Tardes” or “Buenas Noches” depending on the time of day. The appropriate greeting between men and women and women and women is a kiss on the cheek. Men greet one another with a handshake.
- **Time** – the attitude to time in Peru is significantly different to what you may be used to. Things often start late and maybe last longer than you are used to. You may feel frustrated at this and feel that things are not done efficiently. You need to try and be patient and remember your way is not necessarily best!
- **Meals** – a large lunch is usually the main meal of the day. Be prepared for this!
- **Christians** in Peru do not smoke, drink or dance. Take note of of this and be respectful.
- **Families** - the cultural norm is for the woman to run the house as well as often working too. Men expected to be waited on by their wives. Machismo is alive and well in Peru. While not outwardly criticising, it is important that we are good role models and that men show Godly examples of service.

## Culture Shock

There is actually a positive side to embracing a new culture. The excitement about being in a new country, sharing in a new experience, trying out a new language or visiting exotic new places can be quite a rush. However, when the new experience becomes so unlike anything we have ever seen or experienced, shock sets in! You might begin to challenge what you see, using your own experience and beliefs as a starting point and suddenly almost everything seems to be at odds with what makes sense to you. This can manifest itself as simple, every day things - food, basic sanitation, language, time keeping, etc. It’s important to be aware of our reactions. We may feel more tired than normal, nervous and unsure, unable to make simple decisions. We can sometime react in ways that are not normal – aggression, withdrawal and a constant talking about how everything is better than at home.

You are only here for a short period of time, so you may not feel these things acutely but culture shock can happen to anyone so please be aware of it and speak to your Team Leader or Scripture Union host if necessary.

# Mission and The Bible

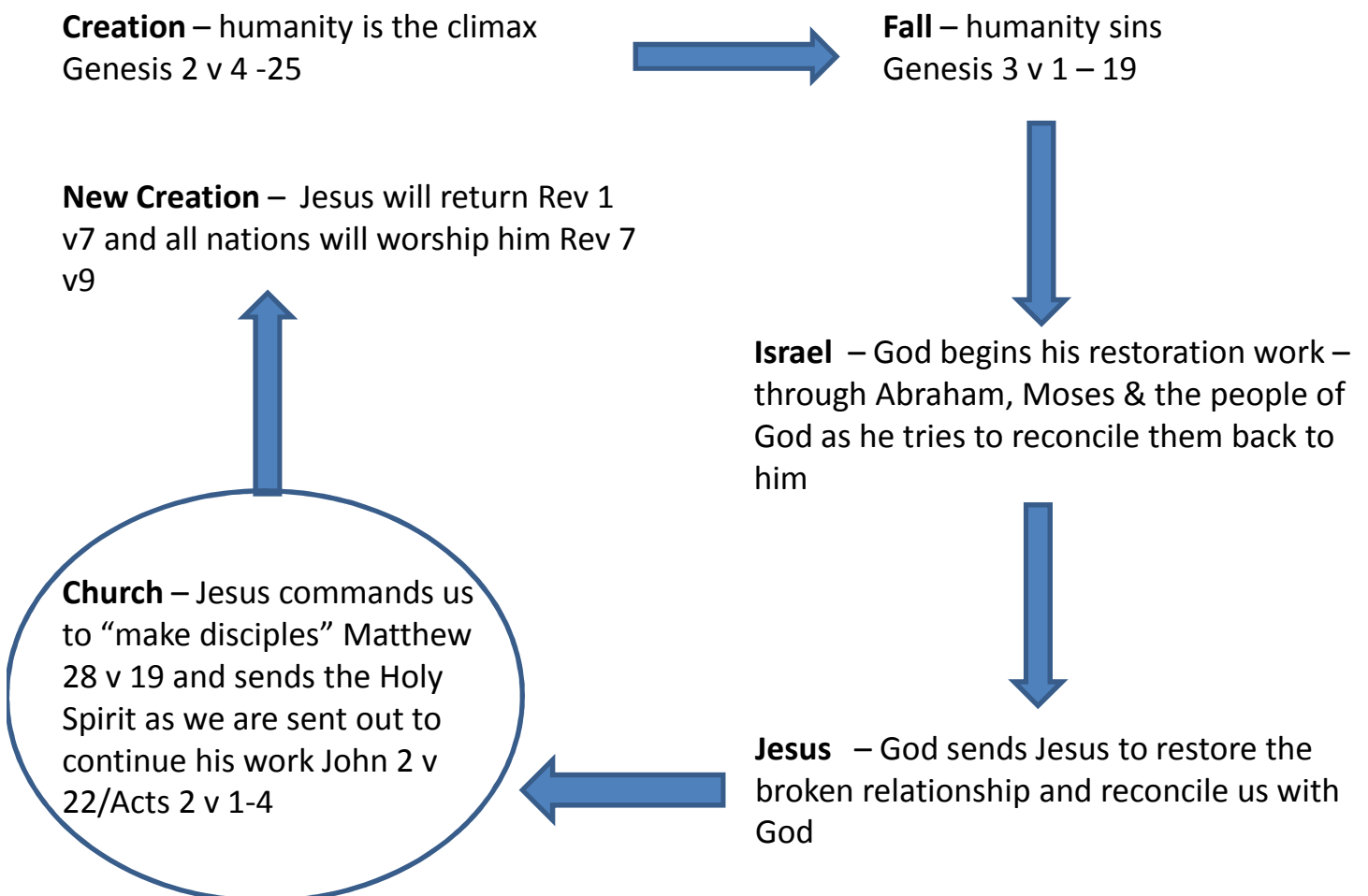


As you embark on this trip to Peru, you are about to play a part in God’s mission to the world – reaching out to some of the most marginalized in society with God’s love.

From the very beginning of time, God has been searching for the “lost” - in Genesis 3 v9, God asks Adam “Where are you?” and since the fall of creation, God has been longing that people will turn back to him.

From Genesis to Revelation, we see God’s mission to the world.

As God’s ambassadors on earth, we are called to reach out and share the good news with others. In Matthew 28 Jesus commands us to go to all nations and make disciples. Pray that God fills you with his Holy Spirit to witness to others through what you say and do on this trip and be prepared for God to be at work in you, transforming you and renewing you more and more.



## What part can I play?

- Be open to what God is asking you to do and follow in obedience.
- **Follow the example of Jesus:**
  - Pray regularly - Mark 1 v35
  - Compassion for others Luke 7 v13
  - Communicating God's message .
- Be prepared to get stuck into whatever you are asked to do Col 3 v23

## Prayer:

There are many areas you can pray for. Here are just a few suggestions;

- **Pray regularly before the trip and on your trip:**
  - Thanksgiving for your trip, the opportunity to visit Peru.
  - For your journey and safe travel in Peru.
  - For the opportunity to share God's love with others.
  - For those that you meet – that they may be able to relate to them and build good relationships.
  - For times of prayer and intimacy with Jesus, to be open to him speaking and using you on this trip.
  - For good team work and unity and love for one another.
  - For patience especially through new cultural situations and climate, food, lack of personal space.
  - For protection from sickness and accidents.
  - For protection from spiritual attacks, home sicknesses, discouragement.

## Your trip with Scripture Union, Peru



### What will I be doing?

Every team is different. However, generally speaking, teams work on construction at one or two of our various boys homes. This involves digging ditches, making mud bricks, sanding, painting and a whole variety of different things.

Teams may also get involved in Vacation Bible Schools activities in local schools. All teams will interact with the boys who live in our homes and have the opportunity to play games, enjoy a soccer game (beware – the boys usually win!) and share meals together. You may want to come prepared with some games or activities to do with the children – this can help enrich your experience here.

We are certain that the relationships you form on your trip will be the greatest reward of your time here. You will make an impact on their lives, as they change yours forever. Every team enjoys a day off and has the opportunity to visit some local attractions and see part of the beautiful country of Peru. In Lima, you will also have the opportunity to see part of the capital city as well as visit the Indian market to buy souvenirs to take home!

### Where will I be staying?

Accommodation is a mix between hotels (Lima, Cusco and Arequipa) and dorm style accommodation in bunks (Puerto Alegría, Kusi, Kimo, Ica and Kawai)

#### **The following is important information for each site:**

The electric voltage is 220V

**Kawai:** accommodation on site, cold showers, all meals at the worksite. Weather is cool and overcast most of the time.

**Ica:** accommodation on site, cold showers, all meals at the worksite with the boys. Weather is cool in the mornings and evenings, hot & sunny midday.

**Cusco:** hotel accommodation, hot showers, breakfast at the hotel, lunch at the worksite, dinner alternating between worksite and restaurants in town of Urubamba. Sunscreen and a hat for the worksite and warm clothing for the evenings.

**Kusi:** accommodation on site, cold showers. Use of broad brimmed hats and sunscreen are a must! All meals at the worksite with the boys. Weather is cool in the mornings and evenings, hot & sunny midday. Sunscreen and a hat highly recommended.

**Kimo:** accommodation on site, cold showers, individual mosquito nets, insect repellent, yellow fever shot, All meals are at the worksite. Please bring a plastic plate, bowl, mug and cutlery in a hanging mesh bag. Weather is hot and somewhat humid.

**Iquitos:** accommodation on site, cold showers, individual mosquito nets and insect repellent. Malaria regiment required. All meals at the worksite. Please bring a plastic plate, bowl, mug and cutlery in a hanging mesh bag. Weather is hot and humid.

**Arequipa:** hotel accommodation, hot showers, breakfast at hotel, lunch at the worksite, dinner at the hotel or nearby restaurants. Sunscreen and a hat for the worksite and a light jumper for the evenings.

## **What do I do when I arrive?**

On your flight to Peru, you will be given two forms to fill out. One is the immigrations form that you will turn in to the immigrations officer before entering the baggage claim area, and the other is the customs form that you will turn into the customs officer after collecting your luggage. The forms will ask you for your address in Peru. Use the following address:

Billy Clark , Los Cristantemos 351, La Molina Vieja, Lima 12

The immigration card that you will fill out on the airplane comes in duplicate. Please save the copy in your passport and do not discard it. You will need it when you pass back through immigrations upon leaving the country.

Indicate on your customs card that you have nothing to declare and hand it to your team leader. Once everyone has found their luggage, hand your card to the customs agent and exit the baggage claim area.

There are complimentary carts available to put your luggage on which may be taken as far as your bus. Don't be talked into putting everything onto a large cart by airport sky caps. This will only add confusion and cost you money. Once you have left the airport building, do not let anyone take your bags, even if they appear to be friendly.

After you have exited the customs area and you are entering the main airport, locate your host who will be waiting for you by the red Claro stand near the coffee shop just off to the left, with a sign that reads "Unión Bíblica" (Scripture Union).

### **Under**

**NO CIRCUMSTANCES are you to leave the airport building before finding your host.**

### **Lost Luggage:**

If any of your suitcases do not arrive, contact your airline personnel in the baggage claim area. They will furnish you with the forms you need. Ask them to deliver the luggage to :

Billy Clark, Los Cristantemos 351, La Molina Vieja, Lima 12

IF they say that they cannot, fill in the following name and ID number and we will have a staff worker pick it up the following day.

**Name: César Huancayo DNI: 06892198**

[peruworkteams@gmail.com](mailto:peruworkteams@gmail.com)

## **What to pack:**

- Personal toiletries
- Old comfortable t-shirts and trousers/ shorts for working
- Boots or trainers for working
- Flip flops/ sandals
- Jeans, shorts, t-shirts for evenings/ day off (no ripped clothing)
- Sweater/ fleece
- Skirt – girls. May be required for Church
- Waterproof jacket
- Sleeping bag
- Pillow (if required)
- Work gloves
- Towel
- Sunscreen, hat and sun glasses
- Insect repellent
- Anti bacterial gel/ hand wipes
- Bible, pen, notebook
- Books, games
- A few personal photos to share with the boys
- Camera and batteries
- Photocopy of your passport
- Earplugs if you think you may have trouble sleeping
- Adaptor (220V)
- Roll of toilet paper
- Any required medicines
- Snacks
- Small day pack
- Flash light
- Water bottle
- Malaria tablets (Iquitos)
- Yellow Fever certificate (Kimo)

## **If US teams wish to bring some group food contributions:**

Jelly/ jam; mayonnaise; granola bars; peanut butter; canned tuna (**UK** marmite)

## Is there anything I can bring for SUP? (Wish List)

Whatever you bring is greatly appreciated! At the end of your trip, there will also be the opportunity to leave any unwanted clothes, bedding, towels etc which we will wash and use for Girasoles.

### Articles of clothing:

Underwear (sizes 6 – 16)  
Socks  
Shorts  
Pants  
Sweaters  
Jackets  
T-shirts  
Towels (both hand and bath sizes)

### Toiletries:

Toothpaste  
Toothbrushes  
Shampoo  
Large bars of soap  
Deodorants

### School Supplies:

Backpacks  
Spiral and non-spiral notebooks (letter and official sizes)  
Crayons and colored pencils  
Pencils  
Pens (red, black, and blue)  
Masking tape  
Thick and thin markers  
Rulers (15 cm and 30 cm lengths)

### School supplies (continued)

Pencil sharpeners  
Erasers (for ink and pencils)  
Pencil cases  
Fanny packs  
Dry erase board  
Red, blue, and black dry erase markers  
Erasers for dry erase board  
Construction paper (all colors)  
Scotch tape  
Glue sticks  
Staplers and staples  
Paper clips  
Thumb tacks  
Clamps  
Photo albums  
Scissors  
ClipArt books on CD's (to illustrate)  
Little prizes (stickers, etc.)  
Bible stories on DVD (Spanish)  
Frisbees  
Children's story books (Spanish)  
Stuffed animals  
First aid supplies for field day trips  
Highlighters

## **General Guidelines:**

SUP is an Evangelical Christian organization. While all team members are not required to be Christians, we ask that everyone would respect the organization's beliefs and convictions. **We also ask that team members refrain from any type of activity that would damage our Christian testimony in Peru.**

**People will observe your behavior from the moment you arrive in Peru, making it vital that you conduct yourself in a manner that glorifies God.**

### **Smoking and Alcohol**

If you are a smoker or if you enjoy an occasional drink we request that you refrain both on SUP sites or in the company of our boys. Seeing you smoke will confuse them and could have a damaging effect on the reputation of SUP. The same would apply to the use of alcohol. We also ask that you use good judgment even outside of the company of the boys. Anything in excess is inappropriate.

### **Drugs**

Use of illegal drugs is punishable by Peruvian law.

### **Respecting Leadership**

While severe discipline matters will be dealt with by SUP, internal discipline matters will be dealt with by your team leaders.

### **Liabilities**

SUP excludes liability for personal injury or death suffered by a work team member as a result of events outside its control, actions contrary to its Guidelines or considered illegal by Peruvian law and actions inconsistent with those given by the Site Coordinator.

If the Guidelines are not complied with the offending participant will be asked to leave the work team and return home. A participant's inappropriate attitude/actions should be addressed by the work team leader and the Site Coordinator.

Action associated with extreme cases warrant 3 clearly stated levels of warning:

A first official verbal warning followed by a first and then a second written warning.

### **Dismissal & repatriation**

SUP reserves the right to dismiss participants immediately, depending on the severity of the infraction.

## **SUP Gift and Giving Policy:**

Upon arriving in Peru, you will soon be aware that our cultural differences. In order to help you transition smoothly, we offer guidelines that must be kept during your stay. The first of these has to do with your generous and thoughtful gifts. In the world you are now a part of, where those around you have very little, gifts are truly a blessing and yet must be dealt with very carefully.

The **Wish List** contained in this document includes items we need for the homes. If you have something else in mind to bring, please e-mail in advance.

Gifts can become a double-edged sword, if they aren't dealt with thoughtfully and distributed appropriately. All items must be handed in and distributed by SU staff.

By working with us on this, you will basically have to forego the pleasure of 'seeing them open the package' in exchange for the greater good. Therefore all gifts must be handed to the SU staff working with you.

**All gifts are sorted and stored in Lima. They are distributed as per requests received from staff in charge of the various ministries.** Clothes, shoes, towels and other items you wish to leave at the end of your trip, must be bagged and returned to Lima. These are then washed and distributed as needed.

Resist the temptation of handing things out yourself and please leave nothing on site when you leave. Having said this, sometimes it is appropriate for gifts to be given directly to the boys, workmen or staff. On these occasions, arrangements must be made by our staff on site, or **if the gift recipient is a staff member**, it would be best to **consult our International Relations Director at 989 285 251** We try to discourage boys and workers from asking for things, and we do well until someone slips up and gives in!

**You want them to remember you for Christ in you! For your smile, your warmth and your love, not for what you have that they never will.**

## FAQs

### **Do I need to learn Spanish before I come?**

No, it's not necessary to learn any Spanish before you come to Peru – you will always have a member of SU staff with you, who speaks both English and Spanish. However, if you do know some words in Spanish it will enrich your experience here.

### **Do we need to bring tools for our work?**

For construction work it is not necessary to bring tools. However, for any activities with the boys or Vacation Bible School, then you will need to bring materials.

### **What construction work will we do:**

Digging, carpentry, painting, sanding, making mud bricks, etc.

### **What clothes should I bring for working?**

Old clothes that you are happy to get dirty! It should be comfortable to work in. See also "what to bring" section.

### **What is the weather like?**

**Lima** – cool, damp and overcast

**Iquitos** – extremely hot and humid. It may rain.

**Cusco** – hot, dry days, cooler evenings.

**Kimo** – cool in the evenings and mornings, hot in the day.

**Ica** – cool in the mornings/ evenings. Hot and sunny days.

**Kusi** – Very hot and dry in the day. Cold at night.

**Arequipa** – Hot and dry in the day. Cold at night

### **Can I bring my ipod/ portable DVD, etc?**

Yes – (as long as your team leader allows it) But please bear in mind, these type of things may be a temptation for the people you will meet.

### **How do we travel from Lima?**

**Fly** Iquitos (90 min), Cusco (50 min) and Arequipa (50 min)

**Ride by bus** Ica (5 hrs) Kusi (9 hrs), Kimo (9 hrs) and Kawai (2 hrs)

### **Do I need any vaccinations?**

For Kimo, you need the yellow fever vaccination. In Iquitos, you should take malaria tablets. Consult your Doctor for further advice.

## **FAQs (cont...)**

### **What money should we bring?**

The official currency of Peru is the “nuevo sol” but it is best to bring US dollars. Please make sure the dollars are crisp, new bills as otherwise it can be difficult to change them. You will have an opportunity to change money.

### **What about food and water in Peru?**

Peruvian cuisine is excellent and has always had a good reputation around the world. Dishes will be prepared locally at the boys home and will all be safe to eat. In restaurants, avoid eating salad. Avoid eating from street vendors. You should drink bottled water or water provided by SUP.

### **Is it ok to smoke or have a drink whilst I am in Peru?**

We request that you refrain from both smoking and drinking on SUP sites or in the company of our boys. Seeing you smoke will confuse them and could have a damaging effect on the reputation of SUP. We also ask that you use good judgment even outside of the company of the boys. Anything in excess is inappropriate.

### **Is Peru dangerous?**

The most likely “danger” you may encounter is pick pocketing and petty crime. Of course, like anywhere in the world, serious crime does exist but we ask you to follow the advice of your SUP team leader as they know and understand the country. Clearly it is not advisable to have on show cameras, ipods, wallets, jewellery or large amounts of cash that could be easily snatched. Use common sense and be vigilant at all times!

## Contact Numbers:

- Billy Clark – Director of International Relations - 989 285 251
- Rachel Payling - 989 285 369 & 992 502 665
- Billy Greenman - 989 222 452 & 986 635 721
- Marty Clark - 989 285 271 & 497 1401
- SUP office: 01 360 1501

When calling from the USA, 011-51 is needed before these numbers and from the UK, 00 51

## Recommended Reading:

- Southern Cross: Lost and Found on the streets and in the jungles of Peru  
**(Paul Clark)**
- Limeño – what makes him tick  
**(Paul Clark)**
- Serving with eyes wide open  
**(David Livemore)**
- Inca Kola  
**(Matthew Parris)**
- The Peru Reader: History, Culture, Politics  
**(Orin Ed, Ivan Degregori and Robin Kirk)**