



Intimate Perspectives: Cusco, Machu Picchu & the season of Festivals!

Dates: June 19th – 26th 2011

Instructors: Spike Mafford & Adam L. Weintraub

Fee: \$2750, workshop to end in Cusco

To register, please email: register@photoexperience.net or call 206-817-4686

Amazon Rainforest Extension: Heath River & Lake Sandoval

Dates: June 27th – July 2nd

Fee: \$1475, workshop to end in Puerto Maldonado

Join us in the “working” adventure of a lifetime – a multi-layered offering of a roving professional photography workshop, an immersion course on adventure travel as well as a truly authentic glimpse into a Peru few tourists ever see. We’ll tour Peru’s most fascinating cultural sites like Machu Picchu during its Centennial Celebrations; experience traditional festivals normally held months apart but this year only 1-day (!) apart; and explore sacred places slightly removed from the beaten track. Legendary photographers Mario Testino, Irving Penn, Martin Chambi, Phil Borges, Chris Rainier & Javier Silva have all created unique and lasting photographs in Peru and we’ll reference their work as we make our own.

Photographer Adam L. Weintraub, now living in Peru after traveling there for many years, will be joined by Spike Mafford, a highly regarded professional travel photographer, to bring humor, spirit and insight to this excursion. Traveling the globe in pursuit of fine art and documentary images, they have fine-tuned a variety of approaches and techniques, as well as less easily-defined skills like overcoming language barriers and other cultural challenges. This course offers the ultimate flexibility and a great insight into how each of us makes our mark on the world as we see it.

Each day we’ll look forward to high-spirited photographic and cultural debates (accompanied by some of Peru’s best cuisine). We’ll show you how to cultivate a distinctive, personal imagery that transcends the boundaries of mainstream “travel photography”.

Some of the specific subjects covered will be: quickly perceiving the deeper subtexts in a situation; employing discreet and effective approaches in sensitive environments; and then we will also address technical issues like equipment, lighting and composition. We will have private critical feedback with each participant meeting to discuss direction, edits, style and substance. Participants will return home with from a truly unique Peruvian experience with a vision of their own.

ABOUT THE FESTIVALS:

June 23rd – Festival of Corpus Cristi

Corpus Cristi is Cusco’s most important religious festivity. A total of fourteen Saints and Madonnas, from each of Cusco’s parish churches, parade from their respective barrios to the main Cathedral, literally joining Christ in his resting place. Members of each brotherhood prepare for a full year for the procession and money is raised to provide the most sumptuous attire for the saint or Madonna of each neighborhood’s patron saint. The result is a spectacular parade of bejeweled and bedecked statues, making their way from their “home” Parrish church to the

main plaza Cathedral on floats carried by devotees. Boy do they struggle. But they know how to celebrate, too! After seven more days, the recession of the floats is cause for further celebration, cerveza & cuy.

June 24th – Festival of Inti Raymi, Cusco

Inti Raymi is a festival that reverts back to the time of the Inca's. The shortest day of the year, it is a celebration and a sacrifice to the Sun God for the coming year's bounty. This is one of the few events where the locals outnumber the tourists, picnicking and relaxing on the hillside above the ceremony in the "mouth" of the Puma. Cusco's original design was said to be in the shape of the revered Puma and the large stones of Sacsayhuaman represented the teeth – thus, the action and traditional sacrifice occur on the field between its teeth. Random interesting fact!

ABOUT THE AMAZON EXTENSION

On this journey to the Heath River and then Lake Sandoval we encounter the best pristine rainforest and the most comfortable wilderness lodges that the Upper Amazon Basin has to offer – an unbeatable combination of remoteness, and yet reachable distance by river from an airport with scheduled passenger-jet flights.

Our two lodges lie within the Tambopata-Madidi reserve areas of Peru and Bolivia. Taken together, they form the second largest, and by far the most biologically diverse nature conservation area in all of South America.

At the Heath River Wildlife Center we witness one of nature's most spectacular displays -- a tumultuous gathering of brightly-colored macaws and parrots at the Heath River macaw clay lick. We walk through the astonishing change of environments to be experienced on the short journey from the river to the Pampas – an excursion that also takes in a rare nesting site of the Red-bellied and Blue-and-yellow Macaws. We also pay a visit to the village of Sonene, one of the surviving communities of the Ese'Eja indigenous people.

Lake Sandoval is a large body of water that is home to a family of Giant Otters, and we should spot them during our stay, along with numerous troupes of monkeys, caiman and a huge variety of colorful birds.

REGISTRATION INFO:

To reserve your space in a PhotoExperience workshop in Peru, a deposit of \$400 is required at the time of registration. We cannot hold space in a workshop without a deposit. We will send you a statement of your account, with the balance due, 90 days prior to the start of the workshop, though full balance can be made at time of registration. Final payment of your balance will be required at this time. Please contact us for further information or questions: register@photoexperience.net

We will limit the number of registrants to 12. Fee includes all instruction & materials, lodging, all breakfasts & lunches, non-alcoholic drinks, entrance fees and transfers. The flights to Peru and Cusco are not included. Extra expenses would be individual excursions outside of group activities, taxis, dinners, alcoholic drinks as well as tips for guides and drivers beyond what PhotoExperience will provide. You may expect this to total between \$20 and \$40 per day depending on personal preferences.

Single supplement: \$470 per person. If you prefer a single room, there is a single supplement fee of \$470 per person. If you're traveling alone and wish to share accommodations, we'll try our best to find you a roommate. If that is not possible, you will have to pay the single supplement charge. Single supplements will be awarded on a first-come/first-served basis as sometimes preferred lodging doesn't have full availability.