



JOURNEY TO PERU – Solstice Celebration in the Sacred Valley of Peru
STATEMENT OF PURPOSE
June 17 – 30, 2007

Journey to Peru invites you to join them on a journey into the magical and mystical Andes of Peru. Our purpose is to open to the wisdom of our ancestral heritage in the Andes by entering into and participating in the traditional ways of thinking and living of the Quechua people. We consider it a rare privilege that Puma and Don Maximo and the other members of their families and communities are offering this experience to us. We are also looking at this as an opportunity to practice the principles that we have been working with in our Vermont community over the last several years that dovetail the teachings of our Andean family.

In order to make our trip to Peru a meaningful and joyful experience we want all of us to be clear about our expectations and desires. *Please read all of the materials several times very carefully, ask questions and think about the kinds of personal challenges that this trip might create for you before you sign anything or give us a deposit.*

Here are some things to think about:

1. The group size may be as many as 15 people traveling with us. We will be working in teams to support each other and make the logistics of each day go as smoothly as possible. And there are always challenges in traveling together with a large group. One of our goals is to learn more about being a community and supporting each other as we walk together through wonderful and difficult experiences. The rigors of the trip will bring up all kinds of things inside of us. The tone we would like to set is that we can communicate about and learn from these experiences in ways that are healing and ultimately move the group and ourselves forward.
2. There will be travel at high altitudes. At times we will be some distance from quality medical facilities. Food and water can make you sick no matter how hard you try to be careful. Think about whether this is the right time in your life for you to take on this kind of challenge. All of us will need to prepare before leaving by getting lots of exercise. Once again, while we are there our goal will be to support each other in dealing with these challenges and to stay in good communication about how everyone is doing.
3. We will be in a culture very different from our own, where our customs and assumptions may be different from the culture we will be living in. Part of learning will come from trying to understand how and why the customs of another culture make sense to them and to remember that we are guests of their culture and not entitled to be treated by our standards.
4. All of the members of this particular traveling circle and the leadership of this group are part of our circle - our spiritual community. This is a unique opportunity to deepen our practice together and our connection with each other. We ask that all of us do our best to keep the lines of communication open and try to talk about concerns before they become problems. When we travel together, we are creating a unitive body in which to open to our Creator, through our Apus (the guardian spirits of the land). The stronger and clearer our body, the stronger and clearer the experience will be. Please take some time to carefully and thoughtfully read all of the materials, including the consent waiver of liability form and the terms and conditions. Also, think about the above points and decide whether you feel able to join us.

May our learning together be strong and deep and benefit all our relations.