



# VELOSO TOURS

LIFE IN LATIN AMERICA



Escorted Group Tours - Individual Tours - Tailor-Made Itineraries - Family Holidays  
Amazon Rainforest - Galapagos Cruises - Wildlife & Birdwatching - Beach Resorts  
Inca & Mayan Archaeology - Self-Drive - Walking & Trekking





## *Welcome to Veloso Tours, we love Latin America*

Our main ethos is to provide you with authentic experiences so that you can have an in-depth perspective of Latin America, enhance your visit by focusing on your own particular interests, and share an understanding of local life, people and culture.

A visit to Latin America offers an insight into a fascinating world of Inca, Maya and Aztec ancient civilisations that once flourished leaving behind impressive archaeological sites and pyramids. European influences, dating back to the Spanish and Portuguese colonial era, blend with these ancient American civilisations providing a rich cultural heritage.

We find an environment of great natural beauty where the magnificent landscapes of the Andes mountains stand next to the exuberance of the Amazon rainforest and wildlife. The people preserve an identity with colourful festivals, exotic food, music and dance, and the simple way of life in rural communities contrasts with the dynamic rhythm of modern, sophisticated cities.

Our guides will be with you to convey their excellent knowledge and enthusiasm for the region you are visiting. There are wonderful deluxe hotels of local character to receive you, as well as comfortable first and tourist class accommodation. At times you can choose to use lodges or camping in order to stay in beautiful remote locations in the desert, mountains or rainforest.

Our staff continue to travel extensively throughout towns and villages in Central and South America checking virtually all the routes, facilities and tourist attractions available. We develop and maintain our excellent network of partnerships where our expert guides and travel professionals will provide you with reliable travel arrangements, support and enrich your personal experience.

This brochure offers an extensive range of tour itineraries for you to consider, together with time and budget suggestions. We would like to share our enthusiasm and passion for life in Latin America and will be pleased to hear from you to discuss your personal travel plans.

Paulo Veloso, Managing Director

Veloso Tours Ltd  
34 Warple Way - London - W3 0RG  
Telephone : 020 8762 0616  
Fax : 020 8762 0716  
Email : [travel@veloso.com](mailto:travel@veloso.com)  
Website : [www.veloso.com](http://www.veloso.com)



The air holidays and flights in this brochure are ATOL Protected by the Civil Aviation Authority. Our ATOL number is ATOL 5153



## Landscapes

Central and South America covers a geographical area larger than Europe from the hot northern borders of Mexico to the icy waters of Cape Horn. Within this area we can find arid deserts and lush tropical forests, the towering snow capped peaks and emerald lakes of the Andes mountains, glaciers, geysers and hot, palm-fringed beaches.

## Colonial Heritage

The Spanish and Portuguese colonial legacy can best be seen today in the magnificent architecture, churches, museums and haciendas to be visited throughout Latin America, from charming Sucre in Bolivia, to the 'White City' of Arequipa in Peru, the brightly coloured façades of Salvador da Bahia in Brazil and the delightful, airy Mexican patios.



## Markets, Festivals, Music & Dance

- Explore the colourful bustling indigenous markets where local people come to trade and barter their fine handcrafted wares and farm produce.
- Local festivals and religious celebrations provide a unique insight into the way of life, culture and beliefs of the people. The Easter Processions at Antigua in Guatemala, Carnival throughout Brazil and Inti Raymi in Cusco being the most well known.
- In the music and dance we can find wonderful expressions of emotions, enthusiasm and joie de vivre. Contrasting rhythms, blends of traditional songs, costumes and dances from the salsa to the tango, the love of music and dance is central to the people of Latin America.

# LATIN AMERICA

## *Unparalleled Geographic, Ecological and Cultural interests*

### Ancient Civilisations & Archaeology

The Inca, Maya and Aztecs flourished in Latin America leaving us the 'lost city' of Machu Picchu, Chichén Itzá, Palenque and many other archaeological sites to testify to the splendour of their achievements.

### Relax & Unwind

Latin America boasts excellent coastlines, white sandy beaches and turquoise waters where one can relax in the shade of swaying palms. We have selected hotels with quality services and excellent facilities conducive to rest. Some are in remote locations and others are closer to main resorts, geared towards lively nightlife.

We also offer clients the opportunity to relax in colonial splendour at country estates with excellent modern facilities and comfort. Many of these estates offer activities such as horse riding, walking, trekking, golf and swimming, for guests who wish to combine winding down with the pursuit of pleasant pastimes.

### Excellent Cuisine Restaurants

Dining in restaurants with beautiful surroundings can be one of the most enjoyable moments of your holiday. A visit to Latin America provides an opportunity to enjoy new exotic foods and recipes, although western dishes are also available. Local specialities include: Amazon fish dishes, Argentinian meat grilled on log fires, authentic Mexican cuisine and a wonderful array of tropical fruits. There are many fruit juices and cocktails to savour as well as some excellent wines which have now won worldwide acclaim.

### Natural Wonders & Wildlife

The mighty Amazon is the earth's largest fresh water river flowing through the most ecologically diverse wilderness. The Belize Barrier Reef, a myriad of atolls, islands and shallow lagoons in a hot tropical environment, is the largest in the western hemisphere.

The Galápagos Islands have an abundance of wildlife with no fear of man, and their unique characteristics led Darwin to his theory of evolution.

The Iguazú Falls within a National Park of tropical birds and forest, provide a magnificent natural spectacle to admire. At Angel Falls, Canaima, in Venezuela and Lençóis in Brazil, unique geological formations have created gigantic rock plateaux, tepuy or mesas with sheer rock sides and flat tops rising high above the surrounding plains.



At Península Valdés, Antarctica and the Pantanal, there is abundant wildlife for us to admire at close range.

### Conservation & Sustainable Tourism

South and Central America contain some of the world's largest and most pristine areas of protected natural habitats in National Parks and vast expanses of rainforest. The income from sensible tourism on a limited scale contributes towards creating a sustainable economic benefit for local communities, which in turn helps preserve these areas of great natural history, safeguarding them from exploitation and destruction. Many of the lodges we offer are specially chosen to achieve these objectives and by visiting these lodges you will be making a positive contribution to conservation.





# CHOOSING THE RIGHT HOLIDAY

## CHOICE, INTERESTS, PRIORITIES, DECISIONS

With so much choice it can be difficult to decide which attractions to include within limited holiday time.

Our experience has shown that the starting point in choosing your holiday should be your own individual interests so that you can incorporate the main priorities into your itinerary.

The next step would be to consider the itineraries featured in our brochure and once you have found one that you like, you can book it exactly as shown. Or for tailor made tours we offer a range of modules with additional suggestions to incorporate in your itinerary.

Visit [www.veloso.com](http://www.veloso.com) for additional photographs, descriptions and information.





# SPOILT FOR CHOICE



AND MUCH MORE....



A photograph of two penguins standing on a snowy or icy surface. One penguin is in the foreground, facing away from the camera, while the other is slightly behind and to the right, facing the camera. They are both black and white with red beaks.A blue and yellow passenger train is shown traveling through a hilly, grassy landscape. The train consists of several cars, with the front car being blue and yellow. The background shows rolling hills and a clear sky.A photograph of a humpback whale breaching the water surface. The whale's large, dark, curved back is visible above the water, with white, frothy spray trailing behind it. The water is a deep blue, and the background shows a vast, icy landscape with snow-covered mountains and glaciers under a clear sky.

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& GALAPAGOS

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180 CUBA



**AITO Quality Statement**

Veloso Tours is a member of the Association of Independent Tour Operators. The Association represents Britain's leading independent tour operators and encourages high standards of quality and service.

Veloso Tours abides by the Association's Code of Conduct and adheres to the AITO Quality Charter. Please refer to our website [www.veloso.com](http://www.veloso.com) or visit the AITO website [www.aito.co.uk](http://www.aito.co.uk) to find out more about the Association or call 020 8744 9280.

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# GETTING THERE

web [veloso.com/airlines](http://veloso.com/airlines)

## Flying Longhaul

We offer all airlines to reach Latin America so that you can have a choice of availability in terms of departure airport, connections, stopovers, airfares, aircraft and cabin; and we offer the use of the airport lounges. Flights to Central America and Mexico are daytime, and to South America, both daytime and overnight. The return flights are overnight.

## Upgrades

You may travel in **Business Class** with some or all of these benefits:

- Transfers between your home and the local airport
- Dedicated check-in desk
- Use of an airport lounge
- Greater choice of in-flight food, wines and snacks
- Personal interactive entertainment screens with television, movies and games on demand.
- Wider, reclining seats and in some cases fully flat beds



Some airlines also offer **First Cabin** which normally includes all the benefits of Business plus:

- Fine dining in-flight meals and wines
- Spacious seats that convert to flat bed with mattress and duvet, or even individual suites.
- Stylish surroundings, exclusive personalised service, luxury amenities, and fast-track security in some places.



LAN Business Class



## Main airlines to Latin America



British Airways has direct, non-stop flights from London Heathrow to **Rio de Janeiro** and **São Paulo** in Brazil, **Buenos Aires** in Argentina and **Mexico City**. And from London Gatwick Airport to **Lima** in Peru, **Cancún** in Mexico and **San José** in Costa Rica. British Airways has its own exclusive Terminal 5 at London Heathrow facilitating connections with all regional airports in the UK. Veloso Tours is a British Airways Preferred Partner for Latin America.



31" seat pitch with adjustable headrest, footrest & lumbar support. Personal screen with over 200 entertainment options on demand. Three course meals designed by leading chefs and complimentary bar. Amenity kit with blankets, cushions, eyeshades, socks & toothbrush. Choice of Online Check-in and Check-in kiosks at the airport.



7" more legroom than World Traveller and wider seat with additional recline, adjustable headrest, lumbar support, footrest and leg rest. Smaller, quieter cabin with no more than 6 rows. Upgraded dining service and amenity kit. Personal screen with over 200 entertainment options on demand and new noise-reducing headsets.



World Traveller

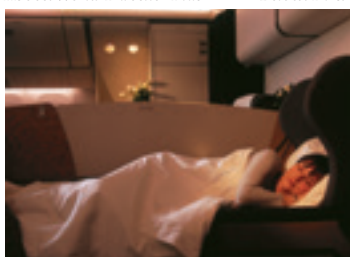


Club World



Above: World Traveller Plus

Below: First



Wider more comfortable 6' fully flat bed with softer mattress, memory foam headrest and cosy quilt. Access to Arrivals and Departure lounges. Touch-button privacy screens with over 200 entertainment options available on demand and four course meal served with the finest wines and champagnes.



6'6" fully flat bed complete with duvet, sleeper suit and slippers on overnight services. Flexible à la carte dining with fine wines and champagne.





With the majority of the fleet renovated in 2015, Iberia has the most extensive network of flights from Europe to Latin America: Mexico City, San José, Guatemala City, Managua & Panamá City, Lima, Quito, Caracas, Bogotá, Santiago, Buenos Aires, Montevideo and Rio de Janeiro. Departing from London Heathrow (Manchester and London Gatwick on certain days) via Madrid with direct non-stop onward flights either daytime or overnight. Regional connections also available via London.



*Iberia Business Plus Seat*

## Economy Cabin

31"-32" seat pitch, choice of two meals, personal 9" touch screen with a choice of films and video, and complimentary bar during meals. On flights from the UK to Madrid, food and drinks cost extra.

## Business Cabin

Seats recline into a fully flat 78" bed, individual 15" touch screen with films, access to business class lounges, and extra baggage allowance. Choice of three menus and complimentary bar service.



LAN has daily non-stop flights from Madrid to Santiago, Lima, Quito and Guayaquil with connections to London with Iberia. They also offer flights between and within many countries in South America: Chile, Peru, Ecuador, Argentina & Colombia.

TAM is the Brazilian national carrier, and has daily direct, non-stop flights to São Paulo (overnight), as well as internal connections throughout Brazil.



*Lan Economy Cabin*

## Economy Cabin

32" seat pitch with adjustable head-rests and individual TV screen with a choice of films and series, games and music channels. Choice of meals with complimentary bar service.

## Premium Business

Seats recline to a fully flat bed 23" wide by 73" long. Each seat includes a TV screen and audio-video system. Choice of three course meals and bar.



*KLM Premium Business Cabin*

Air France & KLM merged their operations and cabin classes, so it is possible to combine the flights, providing services to virtually all the countries in Central and South America and the Caribbean, via Paris and/or Amsterdam. We offer excellent flight departures from UK regional airports:

Manchester, Leeds Bradford, Bristol, Edinburgh, Birmingham, Southampton, London City & Heathrow, Newcastle, Glasgow, Exeter, Aberdeen, Norwich, Belfast, Cardiff and the Isle of Man.



*KLM Economy Cabin*

## Economy Cabin

32" seat pitch with adjustable headrest. Choice of meals and complimentary bar during your meals. Personal screens and interactive entertainment. Upgrade to Economy Comfort with KLM for increased seat pitch of 35" and recline 7", double the standard.

## Premium Economy

38" seat pitch, reclines to a position of 123° and 1m between rows. Priority check-in desk and extra baggage allowance.



*Air France Economy Cabin*

## Business Cabin

Fully Flat beds & personal screens with movies and audio system and a choice three course meals and wine. Dedicated check-in desks and Business Lounges.

## La Première

Stylish seats convert to flat beds with a mattress, and have a wide tray table and bench to enjoy the meal with a friend. Personal interactive video screen and luxury toiletries. Dedicated check-in desk and access to Business Lounge.



*AirEuropa Business Cabin Seat*

Air Europa operates scheduled flights from London Gatwick, via Madrid, to a wide range of destinations: Havana in Cuba, Caracas, Buenos Aires, Bogotá, Montevideo, Santa Cruz in Bolivia, Sao Paulo, Salvador and Lima.

The Economy Cabin has a 31" seat pitch, choice of meals on the long haul flights, but paid service from London to Madrid. Veloso Tours staff have flown with Air Europa frequently and found them to be both comfortable and punctual, and offer very reasonable prices.



*Avianca Economy Cabin Seat*

Avianca operates direct non-stop overnight flights from London Heathrow to Bogotá, Colombia, with a wide variety of onward connections to Central and South America with reasonable fares. Economy seats with 32" seat pitch, Business seats recline.



Virgin Atlantic departs from London Gatwick to Havana and Cancún. Aircraft offer Economy Cabin seats with 31" pitch, Premium Economy with 21" width and 38" pitch. Upper Class with fully flat beds, 82" in length and 33" in width.



*Tap Air Portugal Economy Cabin*

TAP-Air Portugal flies via Lisbon, direct to a large number of cities within Brazil including Recife, Salvador, Fortaleza, Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, Brasília and Belo Horizonte, making it the shortest flying time to regional airports within Brazil. The



aircrafts are modern Airbuses with Economy Cabin with 31" pitch and Business Class 60" pitch and 90" reclining. There are also direct flights from Manchester to Lisbon making it ideal to fly to Brazil from the north of England and Wales with only one change of plane and very good fares at times.





# ETHOS OF VELOSO TOURS

## GOOD REASONS TO TRAVEL WITH US

### *Personal Service:*

#### *Private Individual Tours, Small Groups Tours*

We are a specialist tour company dedicated to providing high quality holidays in Latin America. We are experts at preparing and creating meticulously planned itineraries for individuals, and small group tours for those who want the peace of mind provided by expertly guided and managed group travel. All documents are sent in a well presented, bound booklet to keep, show your friends and remind you of your holiday.

### *Bespoke Itineraries*

We use our expertise to prepare unique tailor-made itineraries for your holiday, matched with your own interests and preferences to create your special Individual Tour.

### *Expert Consultants with firsthand knowledge*

Our staff and management have an intimate knowledge of the region, its natural history and cultures, as well as its infrastructure of hotels and transport. We travel regularly to keep up-to-date with new developments and highlight recent discoveries.

### *Superb Guides who look after you in person*

We select excellent guides (Shown on pages 12/13) who convey their knowledge and enthusiasm, caring for your needs and personal interests to enhance your experience.

### *Partnership with local Representatives*

Our representatives and partners in Latin America are one of the main strengths of our organisation. Their dedication to service, understanding of our requests, resourcefulness, organisational efficiency, quality of staff and expertise of the guides, are all major benefits when you travel with Veloso Tours.

### *Business Management, Knowledge, Experience, Technology and Teamwork*

We have over 28 years experience in travel, and we are continuously improving our business methods and organisation systems; we make considerable investments in computer software, product databases and IT systems and the training of all our staff including the company's management, so we can better serve our clients.

### *Our Clients*

Our experience has shown that our tours attract people who share interest in culture, the environment and discovering local life. You need to be reasonably active, with a spirit of adventure, emotional balance, maturity, a desire for good companionship and an open mind to deal with new situations, people and cultures. A common interest in the life, culture, history or nature of Latin America serve as a binding element in our escorted group tours and enhances your experience.

### *Groups of Friends and Colleagues, Business Meetings*

We can arrange private tours for groups of friends, families or colleagues wishing to travel together. Private group tour itineraries can be identical to the tours featured in the brochure or can be special adaptations to fulfil individual requirements.

### *Honeymoons and Special Celebrations*

At a special time, make a memorable journey. Latin America offers a unique combination of attractions, some more active, others more relaxing, but most of all, providing a memorable setting for the perfect honeymoon or special celebration holiday.

### *Our Customers are important*

We maintain regular communications with all our clients listening to your interests and requirements in order to best fulfill your needs and enhance your visit. Our Managing Director heads our Customer Relations Department, reading and replying to all correspondence so we best monitor and improve the level of our service.

### *Financial Security*

Veloso Tours is well capitalised above the level required by the UK Government through the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) and the Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA), and our financial performance is regularly monitored. We will provide you with an ATOL Certificate to guarantee your holiday. In order to maintain our Air Travel Organisers License (ATOL), we have to keep a strong balance sheet, to guarantee the monies paid to us and we publish annual Audited Certified Accounts, available for public inspection at the: UK Companies House, Crown Way, Cardiff, CF4 3UZ, Telephone 01222 380801.



# OUR TEAM

web [veloso.com/ourteam](http://veloso.com/ourteam)



PAULO VELOSO

Born in Portugal, Paulo studied photography, design and business studies and has lived in London for 41 years. Founder of Veloso Tours, Paulo speaks English, Spanish, Portuguese, and French fluently and has worked in the travel industry for 34 years covering management, hotels, ground agents, flights, tour operation, training and business administration. Over the past 30 years Paulo has travelled extensively in Latin America researching and assessing hotels, lodges, guides, transport and travel services.



ANDRESA MONTEIRO

Andresa was brought up in Rio de Janeiro where she studied Business Administration and Personnel. She knows her native Brazil well and has explored the Chapada dos Veadeiros, the Amazon, the Pantanal and Salvador. Andresa is such an important member of our team concentrating on working in our accounts, administration and software maintenance, that she has very little spare time to fulfil her love for dancing, diving and most of all horseriding.



NICK GOODCHILD

Brought up in the UK, Nick graduated from King's College London with a degree in French and Spanish, after which he went to Chile to explore the country and work as a translator. Nick subsequently worked as a hiking tour guide in the mountains of Europe, gaining a good understanding of people management and leading groups. With an adventurous streak but also a taste for the finer things he continues to travel regularly to Europe and the Americas.



MARGARITA TORRES

Margarita graduated in Business Administration in Quito where she developed her Tour Operating career in reservations, planning, sales and marketing, allowing her to travel extensively in Europe, Central and South America. She lived in Paris and Belgium where she worked in marketing. Margarita now uses her knowledge of ground services, operations and communication skills to contract our services and develop our organisation in Latin America.



VICTORIA SILVA

Victoria was born and raised in London and discovered Latin America after finishing her degree in Politics. Having planned only a tour around South America she then fell in love with Peru and after establishing a career in tourism decided to settle there. She has travelled extensively in Bolivia, Argentina, Ecuador, Mexico and Chile. She has also travelled extensively throughout Europe and speaks fluent Spanish having worked in tour operators in Cusco and Lima. Victoria works in sales, operations and administration.



BERENICE ROURE

Berenice has lived in many places in the world as her parents were diplomats, including six years in Moscow. She later settled in Paris, where she studied Tourism and Hospitality Management and worked at an international tour operator. She speaks fluent French, English and Russian and is learning Spanish. She works in our events and administration departments, as well as helping to produce our monthly newsletter. Berenice has recently travelled to Uruguay, Belize and Peru, and is our specialist on the French Caribbean. She is still planning to go horse riding in Argentina.



JENNY ROJAS

Jenny was born and brought up in Colombia. She became involved in Latin American Tourism after completing a degree at University, and spending several years working for a specialist travel agency. Jenny joined Veloso Tours in 2005, and has recently gained a second degree, followed by a Masters degree in Air Transport Management. She is our senior flights specialist. Having travelled to Peru, Brazil, Argentina and the Galapagos Islands, she has gained a wide knowledge of Latin America. She has most recently travelled to Southern Patagonia to complete a 5 day hike through Torres del Paine National Park.



JULIA MAKAROVA

Julia edits and maintains the content of our website. She studied Interior Design and Architecture, Tourism Management and Marketing, and Bookkeeping in Dublin. Julia was brought up in Latvia and was born in Vladivostok. Julia has loved playing piano for many years and even gives piano lessons. She has great attention to detail and a graphic flair evident in her love for the Arts. She is very much multi-cultural, passionate about discovering the cultures of the world and her dream now is to travel more in Latin America.



FELIPE VELOSO

Felipe is our expert in E-Commerce, in charge of our website, digital marketing and client portal. He has a degree in Business Studies and various computer courses. Felipe has travelled in Brazil, Cuba and Ecuador, Galapagos and speaks fluent English, French and Portuguese.



ALEXIS ALVARADO

Alexis designs our brochure. He loves the outdoors, rides his bicycle everywhere, even all the way to Denmark and back. He also loves to trek in the mountains starting with Venezuela where he was born. The great outdoors are the inspiration for his artistic flair with great technical discipline.



*Our main office in London. You are welcome to visit us, please refer to page 193 for directions*



# OUR GUIDES & TOUR LEADERS

## FOR INDIVIDUAL & SMALL GROUP TOURS

*Your host and local expert makes all the difference*

Your Veloso Tours Guides and Tour Leaders play a number of valuable roles in the success of your holiday:

- **Guide** - to take you on walking tours, visit places of interest and show you 'behind the scenes' in each destination.
- **Local Expert** - providing you with information, answering your questions about local society, culture and history, and recommending restaurants and extra experiences of value.
- **Veloso Tours Representative** - to be your first point of contact while you are travelling, assist you with any issues that may arise and liaise with our local agents, hotels and airlines.
- **Companion** - to look after you and the day-to-day in a friendly, helpful and professional manner, and a sense of humour.
- **Tour Manager & Leader** - to look after all the logistic details of the journey, so you can relax, enjoy and observe.



CARLOS ESCALA VILLANUEVA

Carlos is an adventurer working as a guide. Originally from the state of Michoacan, he has lived everywhere. In 1968 he left the architecture department of the UNAM University in Mexico City and started working as a host in the Olympic village guiding Americans into the state of Chiapas. In 1976 he gained his license to be a tour guide and since then worked all over Mexico as well as in Cuba, US and France. He has an extensive knowledge of the travel industry and a network of people he has worked with.



EUGENIO SOUZA

Eugenio was born in Rio de Janeiro and has worked as a guide for over 14 years. He has a wonderful character, patient, kind and enthusiastic with a good sense of humour and fun. Over the years, Eugenio has discovered so many interesting aspects of Rio de Janeiro, that he will make you feel that you are also a local resident. He loves sharing his passion for Rio de Janeiro with visitors. In his free time Eugenio enjoys spending time with his family, as well as getting out of the city to explore nature in the Brazilian countryside.



ALEXANDRE ROCHA

Alexandre was born in Maceió in the north of Brazil but is now based in São Paulo. He has a degree in Business Administration and speaks fluent English and Spanish. He has extensive professional experience in security, and has taken the National and International Tourism Guiding courses. Alexandre has an intimate knowledge of São Paulo's museums, markets, artistic and cultural offerings, and will happily take you 'behind the scenes' to reveal real city life. He has a friendly and easy-going demeanour, and is thoroughly reliable with a calm self assurance.



JUAN MARTINEZ

Juan exudes calm confidence and knowledge. He was born and brought up in Oaxaca where he went on to study the History of Mexico at university. He later became a history teacher at a private school in Mexico City before starting to work as a tour guide in 1985. His passion is Mexican Archaeology and his favourite tour "Misiones de la Sierra Gorda". Juan loves his family and his hobbies are reading, hiking and yoga.



BETHESHEILA PINTO

Born and raised in Cusco, 'Betsy' first trained as a lawyer and worked on human rights and environmental projects before taking a second degree in Tourism and Hotel Administration. She now works as a guide in and around Cusco, including leading hiking trips into the Andes. She has a passion for nature, and has also worked as a park ranger in Manu National Park in the Amazon Rainforest.



HENRY PORRAS

Henry was born on the Pacific coast of Costa Rica and has been working in tourism for over 20 years. He has a great passion for the natural beauty of his native land, and loves walking in the forest both alone and with visitors. A kind and thoughtful character, nothing is too much trouble for Henry, and he also has a great sense of humour and many stories to tell about his experiences in travel and tourism. The only thing he likes more than guiding visitors around Costa Rica is spending time at home with his wife, daughters and dogs.



PAULO GIFFONI

Paulo was born and raised in Rio making him a true Carioca with an extensive knowledge of the city. He has also lived in the UK and USA, which allowed him to perfect his fluent English, as well as having travelled extensively in Europe. He has a degree in Tourism, and has been a qualified guide since 1992. Paulo is fascinated by the history of Brazil, particularly the 13 year period when the Portuguese Royal Family lived in Rio and the reign of Brazilian Emperor, Dom Pedro II. Paulo's friendly disposition makes every visit to Rio a delight.



MARÍA GABRIELA SEGURA

Born and brought up in Patagonia, Gabriela studied English Public Translation in Buenos Aires and she is currently finishing her studies in tourism at Nahuel Huapi National Park. She has studied Patagonian native flora and history, and adventure and outdoor activities. Gabriela worked as a stewardess for British Airways and other airlines. She has also worked as a production assistant on many advertisements and films for 12 years. She has travelled extensively throughout the world. She has lived in London and Madrid, speaks fluent Spanish and English and has a good knowledge of German, French and Portuguese.





EMILIANO CARRASCAL

Emiliano's enthusiasm for tourism stems from his degree in Hotel Management and his love for all aspects of life in Buenos Aires where he was brought up. Emiliano spent time living in Europe and speaks fluent English. He has a proven record of success looking after our clients for more than eight years, sharing his in-depth knowledge and passion for the city. He knows some real hidden gems to fulfil your own interests. Emiliano has also travelled extensively in Argentina.



ELIZABETH ROJAS

Liz was born in Sucre, capital of Bolivia where she was raised and educated. Prior to becoming a tour guide in Bolivia she spent a year living in Australia as an exchange student. She is a graduate in economics and has been a qualified tour guide for over 10 years. Liz speaks fluent Spanish, English and Quechua (the native Inca language) and she loves Bolivia - its people, culture and history and for this reason she loves to guide and is so passionate about her home country.



*Clients on our Group Tour having lunch overlooking Lake Titicaca (Sun Island, Bolivia)*



MARIA ESTHER SEGURA

Maria Esther was born in Quito where she obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Tourism. Since finishing her studies she has been working as a guide in Ecuador and is a licensed guide for Cotopaxi National Park with particular focus on the flora and fauna of that region. The love for her job has taken her to travel extensively in Ecuador and other countries in South America. She speaks fluent English and is learning French at the French Alliance Academy in Quito.



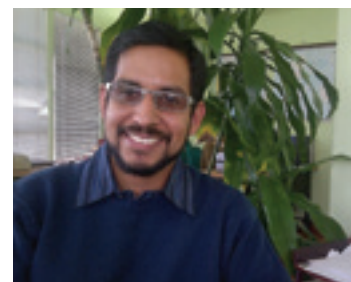
URSULA LEONARDO

Ursula is an official Tour Guide in Lima. She admires her culture, history and people, which was one of the reasons she decided to be a tour guide. She worked as a guide in the Peruvian Congress Palace and the Inquisition Museum for almost nine years, guiding tours in four languages and leading a wide range of visitors, from school students to VIPs. Ursula has a warm and welcoming personality and is always keen to impart her knowledge about Peru.



FELIPE QUISPE

Felipe Quispe was born and educated in La Paz, Bolivia, where he studied tourism specialising in the history of Bolivia. He speaks fluent English, French and Spanish. He is our guide for one of the most magical places of South America; Lake Titicaca and 'Isla del Sol' Sun Island.



MARVIN ABANTO

Marvin was born and raised in Lima. He has a passion for guiding combined with a gentle demeanour and loves sharing his knowledge of the rich history of Peru, its traditions and modern customs. Marvin has travelled and led groups all around southern Peru. He lived in Cusco for eight months, where he learned about Inca culture and colonial heritage, before returning to Lima to be a full time guide.



FERNANDO CHARA

Fernando lives in Cusco, and works as a guide within the city and the surrounding area of the Sacred Valley of the Incas and at Machu Picchu. While still relatively young, he has a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of local history, the archaeological sites, and the Inca civilisation. Fernando's friendly character helps him to get on well with visitors. He previously worked as a journalist at one of Peru's most popular newspapers.



MARTA RODRIGUEZ/ALEX MATIENZO

They have worked as guides for the last 8 years. Alex likes to talk about any subject from cycling to art and politics, so that learning is mutual. He was born in Havana, has a degree in Marine Biology and loves the sea, diving and music. Martha is a pianist who taught music before working as entertainer and dancer. She also loves reading history books and... doing crosswords!



CARLOS EDUARDO BARBOSA

Carlos studied Business Administration at the Federal University in Bahia. He also took a course in tourism in Mallorca plus the tour guide course for Salvador and for Brazil as a whole. He lived in California, Paris, Spain and Germany, before returning to Salvador to work promoting tourism. He loves the modern and ancient culture and history of Salvador. He also knows some fascinating art galleries.



MAURICIO BAUS

Mauricio Baus was born in Quito, Ecuador, he has a Diploma in Law, and also in Tourism. He has lived and studied in the United States and travelled in many countries due to his father's diplomatic career. Mauricio has over fifteen years experience working in tourism as a tour guide and also as a tour conductor. He is fluent in English and Spanish. He is our specialist guide in Ecuador.