



Virgen del Carmen Paucartambo A Local Living Experience

This is a journey into the heart of Andean devotion, offering an authentic, up-close look at one of Peru's most important religious festivals. Unlike standard tours, this itinerary includes deep cultural immersion, such as enjoying traditional lunches prepared by **local families** in Paucartambo and visiting the homes of the **Carguyoc** (festival caretakers) to learn about the profound symbolism and preparations required to host the event. Your accommodation in the shared, comfortable setting of **Hacienda Manzanares** provides a peaceful retreat just outside the bustling town, allowing you to fully enjoy the continuous music and celebration until sunset each evening.

This tour offers a unique opportunity to witness a spectacular natural phenomenon (the Tres Cruces sunrise) combined with one of the Andes' most vibrant cultural celebrations. The final day includes the dramatic ritual known as **La Guerrilla**, capping off an intensive three days of folklore and faith. **The tour is fully supported, including private night transportation from Cusco, all scheduled meals (focused on local traditional dishes), entrance fees, and shared accommodations at Hacienda Manzanares.** Experience the true spirit, color, and energy of the Andes' most important festival. **Book your 4-Day Paucartambo Festival Tour today to secure your place for the Virgen del Carmen celebration!**

Dates: July 14–17

Departure: July 14 – 10:00 p.m. (Cusco)

Return: July 17 – 10:00 p.m. (Cusco)

Minimum group size: 15 people

Language: Spanish

Type of experience: Cultural, spiritual, traditional, natural

DAY 01 – July 14 Night departure from Cusco

Departure time: 10:00 p.m. We meet in the evening and depart from Cusco in private transportation heading to Paucartambo. Leaving at this time allows us to arrive early at the Tres Cruces viewpoint and secure the best spots to observe the mystical sunrise.

DAY 02 – July 15 Sunrise at Tres Cruces + Beginning of the festivities



Early morning: Tres Cruces Viewpoint (3,800 m / 12,467 ft) We will witness a natural phenomenon that can only be seen in a few places in the world: the sunrise from Tres Cruces, where the sunlight passes through the cloud forest, creating a mystical and spiritual visual effect.

Our breakfast will be enjoyed outdoors overlooking the impressive mountain range—a picnic-style breakfast prepared for the day.

Transfer to Paucartambo After breakfast, we descend to Hacienda Manzanares, where we will settle in and rest for a while. Later, we head to Paucartambo to enjoy the beginning of the festivities.

Lunch in a local home In the afternoon, a local family in Paucartambo will welcome us with a traditional Andean dish.

After lunch, we will enjoy:

- Traditional dance troupes such as Qhapaq Qolla, Majeños, Chunchachas, and more
- Music, dances, and vibrant colors throughout the town

Overnight at **Hacienda Manzanares**, in shared accommodations prepared to provide comfort and rest.

DAY 03 – July 16 Main day of the festival

This is the most important day of the celebration. From early morning, the dance troupes accompany the Virgin in solemn masses, processions, and satirical representations of Andean history and religion—an explosion of faith, color, and joy.

Appearance of the Saqras (devils)

The *saqras* climb onto rooftops and interact with spectators—one of the most anticipated moments of the festival.

Lunch in a local home

We will enjoy a traditional lunch prepared with local ingredients from the valley.

Visit to the homes of the *carguyoc* (festival caretakers)

In the afternoon, we will visit the houses of the *carguyoc*—the organizers of the festival—from at least two dance troupes. Here you will learn about the preparations, the traditional food they offer, and the deep symbolism of their role.

Celebrations, dances, and music continue until sunset.



Overnight at **Hacienda Manzanares**, in shared accommodations.

DAY 04 – July 17 Free morning + Guerrilla + Return to Cusco

We enjoy a relaxed breakfast and free time in the morning to rest, explore the town, or shop for local crafts.

After lunch, we gather in the main square to witness the activity known as *la guerrilla*.

Finally, between **7:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.**, our transportation will pick us up for the return trip to Cusco.

Estimated arrival in Cusco: between **10:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.**

Includes

- Private tourist transportation (Cusco – Paucartambo – Cusco)
- 3 nights of accommodation (1 in transit, 2 in a rural hacienda)
- 3 breakfasts / 2 lunches
- Accompanying guide throughout the trip
- Entrance ticket to the Tres Cruces viewpoint
- Participation in cultural activities
- Visits to *carguyoc* homes

First-aid kit and basic assistance

Nont Includes

- Dinners not specified
- Personal drinks and extra expenses
- Tips
- Additional bedding (if the traveler requires extra warmth)
- Sleeping bags, mats, blankets