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19/10/2018

The Day of Creole Song; Día de la Canción **CRIOLLA**

mid the fast approaching All Hallows' Eve, where faux cobwebs adorn the streets, and apparitions of commercialised ghosts and neighbours disguised in a multitude of outlandish costumes are predictable scenarios, there is promise of unswerving culture in sight.

It has been a long standing Peruvian tradition to celebrate local musical wonders on The Day of Creole Song ('Día de la Canción Criolla' in Spanish). The performance event, hosted by The Ministry of Culture, takes place each year on 31st October along the Peruvian coast and Andean highlands, and serves to bring together a medley of provincial music whilst providing a platform where musicians feel free to showcase their skills.





Photo: perutraveltips.org

First orchestrated in 1944, the occasion was actualised to acclaim the time-honoured Creole genre. The music stems from an eclectic history of Spanish influence and African communities in Peru and is typically created using instruments such as the guitar and the Peruvian cajón; this is a traditional box-shaped percussion instrument which is played by beating its different faces with one's hands or tools such as brushes or mallets.

Accompanied by an <u>array of cultural dances</u> such as the Peruvian national dance, the Marinera, and Vals Criolla (the Peruvian Waltz), the event is a jovial occasion which coincidentally falls on the <u>same day as Halloween</u>. Travellers and locals alike can therefore be found in main town squares celebrating both in unison.



Photo: kuodatravel.com

Throughout generations, Creole has been subject to many international musical influences. The premise therefore of *The Day of Creole Song* is rooted in the longevity and preservation of this musical style, sense of community and young talents. Find out more about *Día de la Canción Criolla* on <u>our blog</u> and visit Inkaterra.com to be informed on the natural marvels of Peru.



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