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Insider Logbook: Touring Peru and Inkanterra Hacienda Urubamba-Part One

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By  [Alan Fine](#), Apr 06, 2023, [\(0 comments\)](#) [✕](#)

This is the first of a series of blog posts chronicling my trip to Peru, hosted by LATAM Airlines, Inkanterra Hotels, Inca Rail, Canatur, Proगतur, Municipalidad de Machu Picchu, and Camara de Comercio & Turismo de Machu Picchu.

My trip was organized to help Peru attract visitors after the country was rocked by almost-daily protests and roadblocks for more than two months, a crisis that began in December after Congress impeached President Pedro Castillo Terrones for attempting to illegally impose a one-man rule. Protests demanding new general elections ensued, some of which turned violent, and a police and military crackdown on the demonstrations left more than fifty people dead.

The turmoil put pressure on the government of President Dina Boluarte Zegarra, whom many Peruvians consider to be an illegitimate successor to Castillo. Fortunately, those protests have abated so it's now quite safe for travelers to visit the country, including some of its most popular sites and attractions.

My itinerary called for a flight from JFK Airport in New York to Lima, a short layover and then on to my final stop, Cusco. Arriving in Cusco's small regional airport, I was met by a driver and tour guide who would be the glue connecting the various parts of my adventure in Peru. Our first stop was Inkanterra Hacienda Urubamba, an almost two-hour drive from the airport through Cusco to its outskirts and the Sacred Valley of the Incas.

During the drive, I learned that a new international airport is being built in Cusco, one that would end the need to waste a day traveling through Lima if the ultimate goal was Machu Picchu and the Sacred Valley. Incidentally, and without going into too much detail, more than a few people I spoke with believe the approval of this airport will go a long way into alleviating the animosity between political parties, modernists and conservatives, bringing much needed harmony to this sometimes troubled country.

Inkaterra Hacienda Urubamba is a luxury hotel with 36 rooms in four classes. A dozen are in the main building and 24 are sprinkled above the main facility as private casitas. The public areas, restaurant, spa and suites are all designed to feel like the guest is at home and built from local materials.

The single restaurant is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner, featuring farm-to-table creations (their own farm and their own creations), and wine from a cellar that showcases bottles from a number of South American countries, especially Peru.

Similar to the food and beverage offerings, the spa features farm-to-massage-table herbs and medicinal treatments, the result of research and consultations with local Incan health practitioners whose information has been passed down from their ancestors over hundreds of years.

In-house programmed activities include bird watching of the more than 70 species on property, a spiritual twilight walk with hurricane lanterns, mountain star-gazing, and a detailed lesson on the art of making chicha-de-jora, Andean corn beer.

The hotel is a member of the Virtuoso Hotels & Resort, the winner of the Tatler Travel award as an “authentic adventure,” and nominated in the Conde Nast Travel U.S. Hot List as a top hotel in South America and as a top resort in South America for a number of years.

Soon to come, we will show video footage of the entire property during an in-depth interview with Joaquin Escudero, Inkaterra Hacienda Urubamba’s general manager. Travel advisors interested in spiritual and adventure travel should benefit from this interview. For more information, visit

www.inkaterra.com/inkaterra/inkaterra-hacienda-urubamba

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[Insider Video: A Tour of Peru with Inkaterra Hotels \(Part 1 of 4\)](#)

By [Alan Fine](#), Apr 11, 2023

Joaquin Escudero, general manager of Inkaterra Hacienda Urubamba, talks with Alan Fine of Insider Travel Report about his Virtuoso member luxury hotel in the Sacred Valley of the Incas, which of...[Read More](#)

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Joaquin Escudero, general manager of Inkaterra Hacienda Urubamba, talks with Alan Fine of Insider Travel Report about his Virtuoso member luxury hotel in the Sacred Valley of the Incas, which offers bird watching, spiritual twilight walks, mountain star-gazing, and a detailed lesson on the art of making chicha-de-jora, Andean corn beer. For more information, visit www.inkaterra.com/inkaterra/inkaterra-hacienda-urubamba.

This is the first of a series of four videos from a trip made possible by LATAM Airlines, Inkaterra Hotels, Inca Rail, Canatur, Proगतur, Municipalidad de Machu Picchu, and Camara de Comercio & Turismo de Machu Picchu. The trip was organized to help Peru attract visitors after the country was rocked by almost daily protests and roadblocks for more than two months in December 2022. Fortunately, those protests have abated so it’s now quite safe for travelers to visit the country.

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