



Detailed itinerary FairMail Photography Trip

The Organic Coffee route”

6th of January - 17th of January 2012
12 days - 556 euro

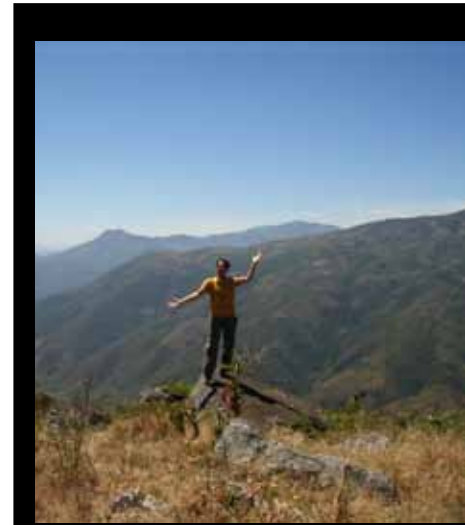
Description

The Organic Coffee route is a unique adventure tour to the origin of our daily cup of coffee. During this 12 day tour, we visit several small coffee farmers in the heart of the northern Peruvian cloud forest. The main focus, besides taking pictures, is to have contact with local people. That's the best way to discover how the locals live in this area. They don't only live off of the export of organic coffee, but also organic sugar and woven textiles. Besides discovering how FairMail works you will learn about the impact of fair trade in this traditionally disadvantaged region in the world with your own eyes.

The Organic Coffee route travels over the flanks of the Andes where it descends into the Amazon rainforest. A great natural beauty, wonderful smells, humid air, lush green vegetation and water are part of the landscape. Some villages even don't have electric power, which gives you the opportunity to see the most impressive stars ever! This destination is barely visited because of the remoteness of the cloud forest of the Andes Mountains and because the tourism infrastructure is still not well developed. This together with the welcoming coffee growing farmers FairMail has long lasting contacts with guarantees an adventurous journey far from the beaten path, filled with authentic picture moments.

The journey starts in the friendly fishing village of Huanchaco, where the residents still fish in the graceful reed fishing boats, a tradition that goes back many centuries. In Huanchaco you'll have the opportunity to get used to the Peruvian lifestyle. It will be summer in Peru, so you can relax on the beach together with the Peruvians who come to Huanchaco during the summer months or take some surfing lessons. You can also have a look at the various attractions in the area, like the largest pre-Columbian mud city of Chan Chan, the former capital of the Chimu empire or the various pyramid temples of the Moche culture. In Huanchaco you will also meet the FairMail teenagers and see how they live their daily life.

After three days in Huanchaco, you travel by public transport with the entire group from the desert to the Andes Mountains. During 9 days we do a tour around the border area of Ecuador. Roads and



public transport are scarce in this region, so there will be quiet some walking involved. Of course in a quiet pace so you can take a lot of great pictures! During these walks and taking the pictures, you'll have a lot of contact with the locals and that's how you get to know their way of life. The residents of this area are hardly in contact with tourism and soon you will be touched by their genuine friendliness and hospitality. And their great home grown coffee!

About travelling with FairMail

The FairMail team likes to invite flexible travellers during our photography journey. If you want to join us, you have to realize that you travel with teenagers and that you'll have to adapt to their mode of transportation. The main goal of the whole group is to take pictures, not to view as many touristic sites as possible. Due to the limited budget of FairMail and the teenagers, we sleep in a basic accommodation, use public transport as much as possible and we eat in local restaurants. Sometimes we will walk for a few hours in a row in a mountainous area with primitive footpaths. Walking shoes and a raincoat are part of your equipment! Alternately we speak Spanish, English and Dutch in the group. There is a Dutch speaking tour guide, so it is not necessary to speak Spanish fluently. However, you will get more out of your journey when you speak some Spanish words, because that's the way to make contact with the teenagers and the locals. It is possible to take some Spanish lessons during your first days in Huanchaco.

About the accommodation

We mostly use family home stays or small basic hostels during this journey. We use them because there is no alternative on the destinations we visit, but also because of the limited budget we have for the teenagers and it makes contact with the locals a lot easier. The teenagers are not accustomed to luxury and for you it can be a new experience. By this way of travelling you get to understand what living in Peru is like, and it also gives the local families a benefit from tourism in their area. Imagine staying one night at a Peruvian farmer's house on a straw mattress and an outside toilet! All carefully selected family home stays and hostels do have at least basic bathing facilities, although not always with hot water. During family home stays you can have your breakfast with the family and easy make contact. The accommodation in Huanchaco, Piura and Chiclayo is a bit more luxurious then in the inland areas, for example they all have hot showers.

About the meals

The food is included during the journey through the inlands, only in Huanchaco you pay for your own food. This means that you eat the same food as the rest of the group. This is the best way to experience some of the excellent local dishes! Due to the budget and the expectations of the teenagers we often eat in simple and inexpensive local restaurants and not in tourist restaurants. Of course you are free to order something else at your own costs.

About transport



We use buses and sometimes private cars during this journey. On the main roads are luxurious bus services with many facilities on board, like large and adjustable seats, a toilet and sometimes hot meals. For the routes between smaller cities there are only simple buses available. When the quality is acceptable and the distance not too long on these routes, we use public transport. It is for a couple of times also nice to experience how the public transport is organised in a developing country like Peru. Sheep on the roof, chickens in the bus, loud cumbia music on the radio and there you go. And stop again, and go! On routes where there is no regular public transport, we use a type called “collectivos” a private car with a driver. These are reasonably comfortable station wagons used as public transport on the remote routes. The advantage of this way of transport is that we can stop to enjoy the overwhelming landscape, to take a picture or to buy some fruit along the way.

The level of comfort during this journey

Tourism is only just developing at the organic coffee route, so infrastructure may be different than you're normally used to. The accommodations are fine, but considerate that you mostly stay with local families and not in luxury hotels. Also the transport with the private car with driver will be comfortable enough. But you must realize that the area of the coffee route has mainly unpaved roads and some parts are in a poor condition. The advantage is that you drive pretty slowly, so you can enjoy the beautiful scenery.

Best period to travel

The Organic Coffee Route is situated in the cloud forest of the northern Andes, on the edge of the Amazon rainforest. The rainy season is from the end of January till the beginning of April, but showers can occur every day of the year and during the rainy season it can be sunny and dry for a couple of days as well. The average temperature varies between 11 and 29 degrees Celsius.

What to take?

- Cash, during the last week of the journey there won't be any ATM's.
(There are ATM's in Huanchaco, Chiclayo and Piura)
- Raincoat/ clothes
- Hiking shoes
- Light clothes (during hot days)
- Cap or sun protection for your head
- Bathing suit
- Photo or video camera
- Valid passport
- Copies of travel documents
- Daypack
- Towels
- Sunscreen
- Sunglasses
- Insect repellent and long sleeved shirt and pants to keep the bugs away
- Flashlight
- Pocketknife

What makes this journey sustainable?

Why is this journey different than the original destination? Or in other words, what makes this journey sustainable?

The good thing about Fairmail photography journeys is that you not only treat yourself to a unique holiday but also one of the teenagers from FairMail. With your contribution to the journey, we can cover the costs for one of the Fair Mail teenagers to go with us on tour. It's obviously not just about money. You can also share your western view on beauty with the teenagers, so they learn what

customers of FairMail cards like to see on their postcards. This helps them to sell more cards and earn more money for their education. In a fun and relaxed way you support talented, but under-privileged teenagers, to improve their future!

You also have the option to “make your seat green” during your flight to Peru by using Atmos Fair. This organisation plants trees to reduce your greenhouse gas emissions, for a small additional amount. Atmos Fair is one of the few CO2 compensation options that have the 'Gold Standard' by the World Wildlife Fund. For more information you can check their website www.atmosfair.com.

By booking this journey you also support economic development of the communities we visit. We mainly use services from people who live in the area like accommodation, transport and guides. Other travel agencies mainly use large tour operators who visit the area, but don't leave any positive things for the residents. You stay with local families in Huanchaco, Sicches, Sicchespampa and Montero and you use also local transport services. Also the guides who are also the local coffee farmers are from the area itself. In Chiclayo and Piura you don't stay with a local family, but in a local hostel.

Minimum amount of days

Minimum of 12 days and the possibility to extend your journey with extra days in Huanchaco to relax, learn Spanish, surf or volunteer at a local organisation.

Prices

Everybody has different wishes and a different budget. That's why we offer the Basic Program of 12 days for a fixed low price.

For people who want more, there is an opportunity to choose for Extra Options besides the Basic Program. The Basic Program is a total journey without hidden costs. We expect that our customers support the FairMail teenagers, so € 165,00 contribution to the project is included in the price of the Basic Program. For this amount of money we can take one of the teenagers on this journey!

Basic Program - 10 days: € 556,00

Included::

- Dutch speaking guide (founder of FairMail)
- All overnight stays in a shared room in hostals or with local families.
- All meals, except the first and last days in Huanchaco
- Transport during basic program
- Entrance fees during basic program
- Bus station of Airport pickup in Huanchaco
- Lunchmeeting with the FairMail teenagers before departure
- Preparation Package
- Project contribution (€ 165,00)

Excluded:

- Flight to Peru (from Europe from 950 euro)
- Transport by bus or airplane from Lima to Huanchaco (from 15,00)
- Airport pick-up Lima (from 15 euro)
- 1 overnight stay in Lima (from 15 euro)
- Airport tax (around 25 euro)
- Any (taxi) transport besides the basic program
- Food en drinks besides the 3 daily meals.
- Photography equipment
- Tips
- Optional tours around Huanchaco

Extra Options:

Besides the Basic Program we also offer extra options:

1. Lima comfort package outward - 1 day - 50 euro
2. Lima comfort package return - 1 day - 50 euro
3. Extra beach holiday in Huanchaco - 4 days - 60 euro
4. Fee single room (if available) - 10 days - 50 euro
6. CO2 compensation flight - 150 euro each person

1. Lima comfort package outward - 1 day - 50 euro

With this package deal you don't have to worry about anything when you arrive in Lima. Also your transport to Huanchaco will be arranged for you. You can also arrange your transport and overnight stay in Lima by contacting Casa Ana yourself.

Included:

- airport pickup Lima
- 1 overnight family home stay in Lima after arrival
- breakfast
- bus ticket Lima - Trujillo in luxurious day bus

Excluded:

- transport to busstation in Lima
- other meals

2. Lima comfort package return - 1 day - 50 euro

With this package deal you don't have to worry about anything when you go back to Lima. Also your transport to Lima will be arranged for you. The next day you will be dropped off at the airport.. You can also arrange your transport and overnight stay in Lima by contacting Casa Ana.

Included:

- airport drop-off Lima
- 1 overnight family home stay in Lima before departure
- breakfast
- bus ticket Trujillo - Lima in luxurious day bus

Excluded:

- transport to bus station in Trujillo (near Huanchaco)
- other meals
- airport tax

3. Extra beach holiday in Huanchaco - 4 days - 60 euro

This extra option gives you more time in Huanchaco after the photography journey. You can chill out on the beach or visit various sights around Huanchaco. During these days you can also already meet the FairMail teenagers. They like to take you to their neighbourhood and introduce you to their parents. If you like you can stay for dinner with them.

Included:

- 4 days overnight stay in a shared room in a cosy hostel (without breakfast) or with a local family (including breakfast).

Excluded:

- breakfast if you stay in the hostel
- other meals

4. Fee single room - 10 days - 50 euro

If you want more privacy it is almost always possible to book a private room. In some cases it is not possible; we will explain it to you if you make a reservation with us.

5. CO2 compensation flight - 150 euro each person

The emissions of a persons return flight from Amsterdam to Lima are the equivalent of 6060 kg CO2. You can choose to offset these emissions in a climate project of Atmosfair project for 150 Euros. You will receive a certificate of Atmosfair. Unlike other CO2 compensation possibilities Atmosfair is one of the few who have the 'Gold Standard label by the World Wildlife Fund. For more information check www.atmosfair.com.

Travel itinerary

Day 1 - 6th of January: Huanchaco

Morning: Arrival in Huanchaco, pick-up from airport or busstation, to hotel or guest family close to the beach

Afternoon: Introduction to FairMail, meeting with the teenager in the office, joint photography exercise.

Day 2 - 7th of January: Huanchaco

Morning: Participating in regular FairMail class on Saturday

Afternoon: Time for yourself to explore Trujillo and its surroundings

Day 3 - 8th of January: Huanchaco - Piura

Morning: Bus ride to Piura (6 hours)

Afternoon: Photography treasure hunt to get to know the city.

Day 4 - 9th of January: Piura - Sicches

Morning: Bus to Sicches (4-5 hours, public transport),

Afternoon: Joint photography exercise in the village surrounding

Day 5 - 10th of January: Sicches

Morning: Teenagers present "Perfect picture" plus group work

Afternoon: Free time to get to know the family you are staying with

Day 6 - 11th of January: Sicchespampa

Morning: Hike to village of Sicchespampa (3 hours)

Afternoon: Visit the sugar cane mill and explanations about the coffee production. Working on perfect pictures

Day 7 - 12th of January: Sicchespampa

Morning: Photography exercise Documentary photography "a day out of the life of an organic coffee farmer".

Afternoon: Hike to viewpoint.

Evening: presentation of the best pictures by the teenagers so far on laptop. Feedback by group members

Day 8 - 13th of January: Sicchespampa

Morning: Perfectionizing "perfect picture" after yesterday's feedback.

Afternoon: hike back to Sicces (3 hours)

Day 9 - 14th of January: Sicches to Montero

Morning: Bus to Montero (2 hours), a slightly bigger village known for its fair trade weavings.

Afternoon: hike (2 hours) to waterfall with swimming hole and possibility to visit weaving cooperative.

Day 10 - 15th of January: Montero to Chiclayo

Morning: Bus to Piura and on to Chiclayo (6 hours in total)

Afternoon free in Chiclayo, the capital of friendship, known for its witch market and ruins of the lord of sipan.

Day 11 - 16th of January: Chiclayo - Huanchaco

Morning: Visit the ruins of the temple of the "Senor de Sipan" the biggest burial site discovery since Tutanchamon in Egypt by public transport. (1 hour by bus)

Afternoon bus to Trujillo (3 hours)

Day 12 - 17th of January: Huachaco

Morning: free time

Afternoon: Visit the houses and families of the teenagers.

This is the Basic Program. If it's possible to spend more time, we recommend to stay for example 4 extra days in Huanchaco at the beginning of your journey. This is only € 60,00 extra.

Day to day program

Day 1. Huanchaco

In the morning you will get a warm welcome from your Dutch or English speaking tour guide on the bus station in Trujillo. Together you drive in 20 minutes by taxi to the coastal town of Huanchaco. Depending on your reservation, we take you to your local host family or hostel. In the afternoon you meet your travel companions in Huanchaco, the FairMail teenagers and the other participants. We will take you to the FairMail office after lunch. You'll get the chance to meet everyone and to see how FairMail works. After that you go back to Huanchaco. A lot of new impressions will pass through your head when you reach your bed in your hostel or at your host family.

Day 2. Huanchaco

In the morning you can take part in a regular Saturday morning FairMail photography training with the long term FairMail volunteers. This gives you a first hand experience how FairMail works, a chance to get to know the teenagers better and check out their photogrpahy skills. You can count on the fact that they will be checking out yours too :-)

In the afternoon you will have some time for yourself to relax on the beach. Or be more active and explore the sites and ruines around Trujillo like America's largest mud city Chan Chan from the Chimu culture. Or the impressive pyramids of the Temples of the Sun and the Moon made by the Moche culture.

Day 3: Huanchaco - Piura

After breakfast we meet the teenagers and their parents at the bus station. From there we take the bus to Piura. This bus ride takes in total around 6 hours and fortunately we drive in a luxury bus with lazy chairs. They also serve food on board. Out of the window you will see how many different kinds of deserts there are on the northern coast of Peru. The landscape is not boring at all and changes from time to time. The desert on the northern coast of Peru is one of the driest deserts of the earth.

In the late afternoon we will have our first photography exercise dedicated at exploring the city: a photography treasure hunt!

Day 4. Piura – Sicches

We take a local regional bus to Sicches early in the morning. This is about 6 hours driving from Piura. Halfway we leave the good road behind us and see how the dry desert landscape turns into steppe and later into the Andes Mountains and cloud forest. The road ends in the small coffee growing community of Sicches situated at an altitude of 1400 meters above sea level. The climate

in Sicches is considerably more humid and therefore very suitable for the cultivation of (organic) coffee, sugar and cocoa. Sicches is a much smaller district capital than Piura, and that is also its charm. The lifestyle is very 'tranquilo'. FairMail has contact with the fair trade coffee farmers in this village ever since our first photography trip in 2007. We will split up the group to stay with different local families. The perfect way to get to know the friendly inhabitants of Sicches and take pictures of their every day life on their small coffee farms. We will make use of the good light at the end of the day to do a joint photography exercise in the village.

Day 5. Sicches

After breakfast with the farmer family you are staying with the teenagers will present their ideas for the "perfect picture". This is the picture they hope to take during this trip that will surely end up being a new FairMail postcard. Envisioning their goal is a strong tool to make them focus. With your feedback and additional ideas to their concept it is bound to become a success. After the presentations you start working on the pictures together in pairs. This can continue after lunch or you can take some free time for yourself.

Day 6: Sicches - Sicchespampa

The next two days we will get to know the life of the organic coffee and sugar farmers a bit better. In the small town of Sicchespampa a small group of farmers is actively engaged in producing and exporting organic coffee and sugar for the European and American market. These people are very hospitable and they also regularly work with volunteers from Europe and the U.S. The volunteers help on the land or in the little sugar factory. After breakfast we make the hike up the hill to the village of Sicchespampa (3 hours). To get to Sicchespampa we have to walk through the coffee and sugar fields which are built on the slopes of the mountains. We arrive in Sicchespampa around lunchtime and we will split up into pairs, so that everyone can go for lunch with different host families. Delicious fresh cassava straight from the land, with homemade cheese and herbs from the garden! After lunch our host takes us for a relaxed tour around the organic sugar factory, we can inspect the fields and walk to a beautiful view point. In the floodlight we certainly take some photos of the kids that are playing and in the night we stay in pairs at different farm families. A unique experience!

Day 7: Sicchespampa

After getting to know our hosts a little bit today the photography exercise for the FairMail teenagers is all about documenting the lives of the coffee farmers in a photo story about their lives. A new exercise for them aimed at focussing on expressing a message through their pictures. In the evening we will get together and watch a selection of the pictures taken so far by the teenagers. So together we can learn which great pictures we have already taken and where there is still room to improve concepts or techniques. Maybe they can use your knowledge and perspective to make even better pictures the last days.

Day 8. Sicchespampa - Sicches

You will wake up by the sound of the natural alarm clock of the rooster and have breakfast with your host family. You have some more time to spend with the family, maybe you can take the cows to the fields, feed the guinea pigs, collect wood or check out the sugar reed in the field. Meanwhile the teenagers will be perfectionizing their "perfect picture" after yesterday's feedback. In the afternoon we hike back downhill to Sicches and stay with the same families again. Sleeping with local families in Sicches

Day 9. Sicches - Montero

The once a day bus service from Sicches back to civilization departs early in the morning. We better catch that one and drive for two or three hours (depends on the condition of the road) to Montero. This village is a bit bigger than Sicches and gave itself the title "Capital of fair trade". It's a nice village with lovely people. Not only the village is worth a visit, also the nature in the surround-

ing area. A beautiful waterfall with a small swimming hole can be found on a walking distance. There are always some girls and boys playing football or volleyball after school and you can challenge them for a game! In Montero is also a fair trade textile shop. Women from the surrounding areas make fancy bags, scarves, ponchos, carpets etc.. All these goods are exported to Europe and the U.S., and gives the women a good wage. Some of them earn even more money then their husbands who work on the fields!

Day 10. Montero – Chiclayo

Today we leave Montero, back to the regional capital Piura and on to Chiclayo, the self proclaimed “city of friendship”. In total this trip takes 6 hours. There we will check into a basic hotel on the lively “plaza de armas” main square. There you can enjoy a good bed and a hot shower again. This also gives you a chance to check on your e-mails en to get money at the ATM. What a difference compare to the mountainside! Depending on the time of arrival you can still check out the local witch market or visit some to the nice old colonial buildings and churches.

Day 11. Chiclayo - Trujillo

In the morning we will take public transport to visit the ruins of the temple of the “Senor de Sipan”. This Moche burial site is known as the biggest discovery of a grave tomb since Tutanchamon in Egypt! We will visit the excavation site where you can climb up the mud brick pyramid and visit the small museum.

After lunch we take a bus back to Trujillo in about 3 hours. Back in Trujillo the teenagers go back to their parents and you can freshen up in your hostel.

Day 12. Trujillo

On the last day of the photography trip you have the morning for yourself. In the afternoon you will probably be invited to visit the houses of the teenagers. After travelling together for 11 days and building a special relationship with these teenagers it is very interesting to see where they come from, see their houses and meet their families. Usually the last day is one of the most intense experiences of the photography trip, sharing great experiences and experiencing where the FairMail teenagers come from. Intense not in the least because of the moment of good bye that is rapidly approaching.

Extra days in Huanchaco

At the start or end of the journey you can book some extra days in the nice fishing town of Huanchaco. This is the only place in Peru where they still fish in the traditional reed fishing boats, the cabellitos de totora. This is a tradition that goes back for centuries. Huanchaco is a village with a lot of facilities for tourists, still has character and very friendly people for who it's not all about money.

When you stay in Huanchaco you have more time to get to know FairMail en to visit the teenagers at their house. They love to show you their place and for you it will be an impressive experience.

Huanchaco is by far the perfect location to visit other tourist attractions in North Peru. In a radius of 2 hours from Huanchaco you find many ruins of different pre-Inca empires, like the capital of the Chimu empire, Chan Chan. Chan Chan is the biggest pre Colombian mudcity of the America's, a world heritage monument of Unesco. You can also visit the Moche temples of the sun and the moon and El Brujo. Also Batan Grande and Tucume, two big pyramids are relatively close by. All these archaeological monuments are not covered with tourists and pretty easy to visit. The area is also attractive because of the warm beaches and the good surf breaks. Chicama for example is the longest wave in the world and goes on for one kilometre!