

Peru Country Profile	
<p>Mailing address for JVs in Tacna: Jesuit Volunteer Corps Colegio Cristo Rey APDO 120 Tacna, Perú Ph: 011-51-52-317-177</p>	<p>Mailing address for JVs in Andahuayllillas: P. Carlos Silvas, SJ c/o [name of volunteer] Triunfo 339, Apartado 276 Cusco, Perú Ph: 011-51-84-774-806</p>

Country Overview
<p>Peru's rich and varied heritage includes the ancient Incan capital of Cuzco and the lost city of Machu Picchu. The country boasts spectacular scenery, including Lake Titicaca, the world's highest navigable lake.</p> <p>It is rich in copper, silver, lead, zinc, oil and gold which has inundated the country with a large number of mining companies that have create a large divide in the country. Despite this, Peru's progress has been held back by corruption and the failure of successive governments to deal with social and economic inequality.</p> <p>In its recent past Peru has alternated between democracy and military dictatorship. Also, it is deeply divided politically and economically. A small elite of Spanish descent controls most of the wealth and political power, while indigenous Peruvians are largely excluded from both and make up many of the millions who live in poverty.</p> <p>Because of these problems, foreign investors have often given Peru a wide berth. In addition, a preoccupation with political power struggles has meant that the economy and infrastructure have been neglected, a factor which fuelled Peru's guerrilla insurgencies.</p> <p>Peru endured a brutal war against Maoist rebels in which up to 69,000 people were killed in the 1980s and 1990s. Investigators have blamed the rebels for many of the killings, but the military has also been implicated. Despite the near destruction of the Shining Path and Tupac Amaru guerrilla groups, violence - in the form of murders and gang warfare - is still a problem and has been linked to the drugs trade.</p> <p>Peru is one of South America's biggest producers of coca - the raw material for cocaine. The UN children's fund, UNICEF, has found that most of the pickers in the coca-growing areas in the north-east and south-east are children. Facing the Pacific, Peru is an important link between Asia and Brazil.</p> <p>All country specific information from: http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/country_profiles/1224656.stm http://www.international.gc.ca/cfsi-icse/cil-cai/magazine/v07n02/3-2-eng.asp http://www.pbs.org/frontlineworld/stories/peru404/links.html http://newint.org/columns/country/2012/12/01/country-profile-peru/#details</p>

History in Country with JVC

Past: The Jesuits historically have had an enormous presence in Peru and have established some of the best educational institutions in the country serving a broad range of constituencies but with a commitment for the most impoverished and marginalized. Jesuit Volunteers have been serving in Peru since the 1980s through the invitation of Father Fred Green from the California Province, who through his relationship with Boston College and JVC began receiving volunteers to serve in Tacna, Peru. In 2010, JVC opened another JV community in Andahuaylillas (or “Anda”), about 45 minutes from Cuzco, through an invitation by the Provincial of Peru who had designated this region as demonstrating the greatest need for JVs and the Jesuit community.

Present Communities: Currently, JVC has a total of 9 JVs in Peru, who live in 2 JV communities in Tacna (4) and Andahuaylillas (5). We intend to maintain this number in Tacna with the arrival of 2 new JVs at the end of 2015. In Andahuaylillas, we may maintain send 2 or 3 new JVs at the end of 2015, for a total of 4 or 5 JVs there.

Tacna

Casa Fred Green, Tacna: This is one of the oldest JV sites, with many roots and stories. The Jesuit presence in Tacna remains strong, though there are some indications that this presence will wane in the medium-term future, which could have an impact on JVC programming in Tacna down the road. The dynamics of the region itself have changed greatly since JVs first arrived. In the center of the city, need is certainly present but not as obvious or economic as in the past. Elsewhere in Tacna, new communities are sprouting up constantly and frequently lack basic services and development. Tacna is a border town with Chile; recently there has been a resurgence of migrants that come through from different parts of Colombia and other South American countries to enter in to Chile looking for employment. Tacna also has a visible presence of Chileans who come to shop and acquire goods at a lower rate than one might find in Chile. These dynamics create a lot of varied nuances, some are explicitly seen, others are only uncovered by paying attention to the “unseen” or the silences of those often made “invisible” in this context.

Worksites:

- Colegio Miguel Pro -- Megan DeRosier '13, John Byrd '13
- Fe y Alegría San Jose & Centro Cristo Rey – Christie Alonso '14
- Colegio Cristo Rey & Centro Loyola – Emily Gray '14

Andahuaylillas

Casa Antonio Ruiz de Montoya, Andahuaylillas: Our newest community in Peru was started in 2010 through the invitation of the Provincial of Peru. Anda is located about 45 minutes outside of Cusco and is a very different dynamic from Tacna. The influences of Quechua are dominant in this region and many people in the community are bilingual. Anda is a much smaller rural community and the center of community life revolves around the local Parish which has a strong Jesuit history. There is not a local Jesuit community that lives in Anda, they live in a nearby town of Urcos and there are also a total of two other Jesuit parishes in the area that volunteers are slowly starting to support. JVs live in a shared house with other volunteers who come and work short-term in the Parish and surrounding community. Most of these non-JVC volunteers are from Spain, other Peruvians, and other European countries. There is also a community of sisters connected with the religious order Hermanas del Sagrado Corazon that live in Anda and all work at the Fe y Alegria school.

Worksites:

- Parroquia San Pedro – Victoria Garayalde '13 (works out of parish in neighboring town of Huaró), Erin Brown '14
- Fe y Alegría San Ignacio – Theresa Cutter '12, Jacqueline Shrader '13, Benjamin Hill '14

Support Persons and Resources:

Both JV communities in Peru have a local Jesuit that serves the role of ICC (In-Country Coordinator) and plays a liaison role with the International Program Office of JVC. Outside of local Jesuits, site supervisors, co-workers, local community support persons, and others who accompany JVs offer cura personalis (individual care and concern) for JVs during their time in country.

Tacna – ICC – Fr. Nino: Arrived in Tacna in June of 2012. He currently serves as the Superior for the Jesuits of Tacna and is the principal of Colegio Cristo Rey. Over the past year Fr. Nino has been gaining more insight into JVC and the role he and his community can continue to play in supporting JVs arriving in Tacna. In addition, there are a number of other support persons at Colegio Cristo Rey that have offered support to JVs in the past.

Tacna – Fr. Fred Green: US Jesuit, first invited JVs to Peru, 20+ years ago. Fr. Fred is over 90 years old. Wise, historic figure with tremendous story and inspiration for the JVs. He started Colegio Cristo Rey AND Colegio Miguel Pro. He is now based at Colegio Miguel Pro.

Anda – ICC – Fr. Carlos Silva (“Calilo”): Recently placed in Andahuaylillas and serves as the ICC for JVs. Fr. Calilo leads parish works in Andahuaylillas as well as in neighboring towns. He is supportive of the JVs and leads mass with them and the community of sisters that support Fe y Alegría on Thursdays.

Anda – Hermana Rosario: She is the director of the Fe y Alegría school in Anda. Though she is extremely busy with her work, she offers a lot of support to the JVs in Anda and serves as an additional link with the JVC office.

Lima – Fr. Oscar Morelli: Peruvian Jesuit who served as our first ICC in Anda. He now serves in Lima as the Director of Colegio de la Inmaculada. He continues to play a support role in the JVs lives, especially when they travel to Lima for their visas. Very kind and giving.

Country Specific Resources

Websites

- General Resources on current events in Peru: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/peru>
- Radio Ambulante (<http://radioambulante.org/es/Inicio>): Often deemed as the Spanish equivalent of “This American Life” great stories from different parts of Latin America. Good article here: <http://www.motherjones.com/media/2012/10/novelist-daniel-alarcon-interview-radio-ambulante>
- Trade Agreement and role of civil society against it given impact on most impoverished and marginalized. <http://www.nonegociable.pe/>
- Scene from Peru pictures during the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the scientific discovery of the citadel of Machu Picchu. <http://www.theatlantic.com/infocus/2011/09/scenes-from-peru/100149/>
- Mexico & Peru: The Black Grandma in the Closet: <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/black-in-latin-america/featured/full-episode-mexico-peru/227/>

- Peruvian Protesters face Police Brutality: <http://newint.org/blog/2013/01/25/police-powers-protesters/> (This is also a good alternative news source that is worth exploring around Latin America)
- *Intercambio* is a magazine published by the Jesuits in Peru that discusses social, political, and other topics in Peru. Find all editions here (in Spanish): <http://www.socialsjperu.org/>

Books

Open Veins of Latin America, (1997) Eduardo Galeano.

Eduardo Galeano has organized the various facets of Latin American history according to the patterns of five centuries of exploitation. Thus he is concerned with gold and silver, cacao and cotton, rubber and coffee, fruit, hides and wool, petroleum, iron, nickel, manganese, copper, aluminum ore, nitrates, and tin. These are the veins which he traces through the body of the entire continent, up to the Rio Grande and throughout the Caribbean, and all the way to their open ends where they empty into the coffers of wealth in the United States and Europe.

Radio Ciudad Perdida/ Lost City Radio (2007), Daniel Alarcón.

His novel "Lost City Radio" is a fictionalized account of a Peruvian phenomenon in which families of the disappeared send messages to their missing loved ones over the airwaves.

Adios to Tears: The Memoirs of a Japanese-Peruvian Internee in U.S. Concentration Camps (2000), Seiichi Higashide.

A memoir of Seiichi Higashide a leader in the effort to obtain redress from the American government for the violation of the human rights of the Peruvian Japanese internees during World War II. His moving memoir tells the story of a bizarre and little-known episode in the history of World War II when he and other Latin American Japanese were seized by police and forcibly deported to the U.S.

Food, Power, and Resistance in the Andes: Exploring Quechua Verbal and Visual Narratives (2010), Alison Krögel

Food, Power, and Resistance in the Andes is a dynamic, interdisciplinary study of how food's symbolic and pragmatic meanings influence access to power and the possibility of resistance in the Andes. In the Andes, cooking often provides Quechua women with a discursive space for achieving economic self-reliance, creative expression, and for maintaining socio-cultural identities and practices.

Bound Lives: Africans, Indians, and the Making of Race in Colonial Peru (2012), Rachel Sarah O'Toole.

*Bound Lives chronicles the lived experience of race relations in northern coastal Peru during the colonial era. Rachel Sarah O'Toole examines the construction of a *casta* (caste) system under the Spanish government, and how this system was negotiated and employed by Andeans and Africans.*

The Peru Reader (1995), Orin Starn, Carlos Ivan Degregori and Robin Kirk.

A compilation of readings covering history, politics, and culture from pre-colonial times to the present, highly recommended

Religion and Revolution in Peru 1823-1976 (1977) and La Iglesia en el Peru (1992), Jeffery Klaiber, SJ.

The author is a well respected expert of Peruvian culture and history. He has taught at Peru's major university, El Pacifico, and Georgetown University

The Kingdom of the Sun (1972), Luis Martin.

A good overview, the colonial section is recommended.

Volunteering With the Poor in Peru (1991), Jeff Thielman, Raymond A. Schrot, SJ.

The story of a Jesuit Volunteer encountering the realities of Tacna, Peru in the 1980s, gives good historical context.

Corrupt Circles: A History of Unbound Graft in Peru (2008), Alfonso W. Quiroz

A history of Peruvian corruption that dates back to the country's colonial period. Discusses how corruption has been deeply embedded in Peru's state institutions and has damaged the country's prospects, and offers a comprehensive estimate of the costs of corruption to Peru's development.

* Please note that these book recommendations are meant to assist you in your preparation but some things might still not make sense or correlate with the lived experience you might experience once in country. However, a commitment to solidarity requires intentional time designated to learn and unlearn some of our notions that we carry of other contexts. Good luck with your preparation!