

YASC in Peru with Minga

July 8 - 16, 2023



Yale Alumni Service Corps

WHAT WILL YOU EXPERIENCE?

You will experience how human rights, environmental conservation, and knowledge of basic healthcare define the mission of Minga Peru in the Amazon—a region that is the most isolated and neglected in Peru. Minga Tour's approach to social change will connect you and your fellow companions face-to-face with local communities in order to share knowledge and skills, and be given an opportunity to listen to the personal stories of local women & youth—all, of course, while enjoying the amazing sights & sounds of the Amazon rainforest.

By joining the group, you will expand the support available to local communities in the region.

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Draft Itinerary

Day 1: Saturday, July 8, 2023 - Arrive in Iquitos, travel to Nauta & Meet the Team



Participants will gather in the Lima airport to fly together to Iquitos and take the 90 minute drive to Nauta, our home base for the program. In Nauta, we will have an afternoon orientation where we will meet each other and the Minga Peru team including the co-founders, Eliana and Luis. Orientation will include information about YASC, Peru, Minga, the local area and the Kukama communities. We will also learn about *Bienvenida Salud*, Minga's flagship program. In the evening, we will share a traditional

Amazonian dinner together thanks to the efforts of Henry, the owner of the restaurant/gathering space in Nauta, as advised by our own master chef, Danielle Morgan. We will end the day with our ice-breaker session to get to know each other better.

Overnight in Nauta

Day 2: Sunday, July 9, 2023 - Site visits



After breakfast and our morning meeting, we will head over to the river to board boats to the beautiful communities along the Marañon. Make sure that you get on the right boat! You will meet and greet the wonderful and powerful women leaders, *promotoras*, at your project site and get a tour of the community. There will be some time for project set-up. The groups from San Francisco and Amazonas will head to Puerto Prado where we will all meet for a beautiful walk on a nature trail. Lunch will be in Nauta.

The afternoon begins with learning a bit about the Kukama from the *promotoras*. The rest of the afternoon will be project planning with the insight of the *promotoras* to guide us.

Finally, there will be time to rest and share dinner together in order to recuperate from the first day in the majestic Amazon rainforest. After refueling on the delicious fresh and all natural food, participants will prepare themselves for a good night sleep— as well, to rest for tomorrow's exciting adventure.

Day 3: Monday, July 10, 2023 - In the Communities



The big day has arrived! We will eat breakfast together and have our morning meeting then embark by river boat for a 30 to 45 minute journey through the immense green landscapes of the Amazon to the local communities. Make sure you get on the right boat! At each community, the women leaders, will introduce the YASC participants and explain formally their mission and work to the other community members.

Planned projects include public health, education, business consulting, murals, and construction.

Thanks to the promotoras, lunch will be served in the community to refuel and rest for the exciting afternoon of work ahead. After a fun day of meeting new people and meaningful service work, participants will return by boat on the Marañon River, once again, to Nauta.

To end the day, dinner will be served and experiences will be shared between participants. This is a great time to share advice and strategies for the next few days working in the local communities. The Minga staff will be present at all times to answer any questions or provide any assistance needed for the YASC participants.

Overnight in Nauta.

Day 4: Tuesday, July 11, 2023 - In the Communities

After breakfast and morning meeting, we head back to the communities to continue work on our projects. Today we add workshops at Tambo for promotoras from other communities. Lunch in the communities. Return to Nauta for dinner. Enjoy some local music during the evening.

Overnight in Nauta

Day 5: Wednesday, July 12, 2023 - In the Communities and Festival

In the morning, we continue our projects at our communities. After lunch, everyone heads to Tambo for our own festival. Artisans from the three communities as well as those attending the workshop at Tambo will set up a fair



to display (and sell!) their beautiful work. There will be a cooking station where we will help prepare our own dinner and tours of Tambo.

Early dinner at Tambo before boarding the boats to Nauta for the evening.

Enjoy a special dessert filled evening before returning to your hotel for a good night's sleep.

Overnight in Nauta.

Day 6: Thursday, July 13, 2023 - In the Communities

Following our routine, we have breakfast and morning meeting together before boarding the boats for the communities and Tambo. Today is the last day of the Tambo workshop. Full day in the communities and back to Nauta for dinner.

Evening activity will be a surprise - don't miss the fun and games!

Overnight in Nauta

Day 7: Friday, July 14, 2023 -In the Communities

Follow our routine of breakfast, morning meeting, and boat ride to your community. This morning, take time to prepare a showcase of the community work over the past few days. Put finishing touches on the mural, display artwork by children (or grown-ups!), and post signs about the work. At 11, celebrate with your friends in the community with a tour to see what others have been doing. Lunch in your community.

In the afternoon, the celebration continues: visit the other two communities for a tour and showcase of their projects.

Return to Nauta and prepare for the evening.

Dinner will be followed by the highly anticipated YASC Talent Show!

Overnight in Nauta

Day 8: Saturday, July 15, 2023 - Celebration



On day 8, we will wake up and have our last breakfast in Nauta and then travel back to Iquitos. We will check into the Iquitos hotel, rest, refuel and have lunch in Iquitos. Afterward, to end the wonderful experience in the Amazon, two participants from each group will take part in the radio program *Bienvenida Salud* to share their experiences with our listeners and send farewells and a final thank you to the communities where they just served for three days. Other

participants are welcome to come and see how we record our programs— or they may visit the Belen market to do some shopping before their last day in Iquitos ends.

Celebratory farewell dinner in Iquitos with our friends from Minga and our translators.

Overnight in Iquitos

Day 9: Sunday, July 16, 2023 - Grassroots Community Service

It is time to say good-bye to our friends at Minga Peru. Flights home or on to the extension in Cuzco and Machu Picchu!