

MUSUQ CHASKI - El Mensajero Nuevo



ProjectsAbroad



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The Press in Peru

One good way to discover more about Peru is to look outside of your Lonely Planet guide book and hit the internet to further research Peru via its own media, where you gain a different insight into the country and what to expect upon arrival. Looking on Peruvian websites is also a great way to practice and improve your Spanish prior to your trip out here, while learning more about the country.



Peru's media scene is dominated by privately-run broadcasters and newspapers, with the state-run media having relatively small audiences. The airwaves of Lima are home to dozens of radio stations and several TV services. Many radio stations and regional newspapers are also available in the provinces. The oldest newspaper in Peru is *El Peruano*, which was founded by Simon Bolivar in 1825. This is a state run paper

which acts as the official newspaper of record, and all laws passed in Peru must be published in this daily. However, despite *El Peruano's* official status, it does not have the largest circulation among Peruvian dailies. The Lima based *El Comercio*, for example, which was founded in 1839, is one of Peru's most important Peruvian newspapers and is also the oldest privately owned paper in the country. You can find out all sorts of news by checking out their website at www.elcomercio.com.pe, from the local football results to updates on events going on in Peru as well as reading international news from a Peruvian perspective.

Another good source that volunteers can check out is *La Republica*, which was founded back in 1981. This paper ardently opposed the government of Alberto Fujimori, and has continued to refer to him as the "ex-dictator." *La Republica* was founded and edited by a former member of Peru's Congress. Again, you can find this paper online at www.larepublica.com.pe.



There are several sensationalist tabloids that are considered to be part of the "prensa chicha." These types of papers frequently feature women wearing bikinis (or less) and show sensationalist pictures on their front pages. According to a readership survey carried out in Lima in 2007, the ten most widely read newspapers were Trome, El Comercio, Ojo, Ajá, Perú21, El Popular, El Bocón (only sports), Correo, Libero (only sports) and La Republica.



There are a number of radio stations throughout Peru, including Radio Programas del Peru. If you log onto www.rpp.com.pe you can listen online and catch up on the news on the Peruvian airways. This is a popular Lima-based news and talk station, which is largely dominated by news and political discussion, but also includes entertainment and sports. Listening to the radio is also a good way to practice your Spanish for when you arrive out here. You can even find Lima traffic updates on this site as well as the current exchange rates for euros, pounds and US dollars on their home page. The programmes on this talk radio station include a variety of subject areas from *Salud en RPP*, where health issues and consults with a doctor are made on air, to *Mi novela favorita* with Mario Vargas Llosa, who presents this series regarding classic literary novels.

Ampliacion de Noticias is an informative programme of interviews with all kinds of people who make the news abroad and in Peru from 8am to 10am. *Grupo RPP* also owns the broadcasters Studio 92, Felicidad, La Mega, Corazón and Oxígeno, all oriented to music radio, unlike RPP, and each focusing on a specific genre or period.

If you want to listen to popular music online on a Peruvian radio station then log into

www.studio92.com.pe. This popular radio station

has news about music, TV, films and celebrities. Programmes include *Hecho en Peru* which broadcasts Peruvian rock music, and *Pichandonos* which on Thursdays between 9 and 11 brings you the best of electronic music. More recently Studio 92 broadcasted a concert by Kylie Minogue which was held in Estadio Monumental in Lima. Since 1990 most stations have been acquired by large radio corporations in order to monopolize the dial. The Peruvian government no longer gives new licenses for new frequencies.



Televisión Nacional del Perú

Among Peru's television networks is Frecuencia Latina, which was the subject of considerable controversy and indirectly led to a case being decided by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. Frecuencia Latina covered several stories of corruption in the Fujimori government when it was owned by Baruch Ivcher. However, Baruch Ivcher was stripped of his Peruvian citizenship and forced to sell his shares of the channel below market value to pro-Fujimori businessmen. Ivcher took the case to court, and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights eventually decided in his favor.

Other Peruvian networks include América Televisión, Panamericana Televisión, and public broadcasting station TV Perú. Televisión Nacional del Perú (or TNP) is a state-owned station which you can check out online at <http://www.tvperu.gob.pe>. In fact if you log on then you can watch some of their programmes online. TNP, also known as TV Perú, was founded in 1958 and broadcast in colour from 1978. TNP is better known for its regular programming devoted to spreading Peruvian Culture. Programmes such as *Costumbres* and *Presencia Cultural* are good examples of this. The former follows fiestas throughout Peru and has been broadcast since 2000 as it tries to find and present to its audience "el espíritu de los Peruanos" (Peruvian spirit). The latter is a programme that looks into the arts and culture. Other programmes include *La Buena Tierra* which aims to educate about preserving nature, while *Confirmado Noticias* and *Planeta Deportes* keep Peruvians up to date on the latest news and sports issues.



Media watchdog *Reporters Without Borders* says there is a high level of violence against the media. Corruption, drug-trafficking and the activities of Shining Path rebels are "very dangerous" subjects for reporters.

What's New?

In **Teaching** this month the "Minisaga writing competition" took place and the winners shall be announced in next month's newsletter. The next network meeting between Teaching volunteers and their partner teachers will be taking place this month.

The **Care & Community** programme has had a musical month as volunteers prepared and sang both French and English songs to the children in all our partner kindergartens in the Sacred Valley (for photos see below). The annual painting competition with the theme of the family has also started and the winners are to be announced in next months issue. We would like to say a big thank you to Elsa Bandelier who created a wonderful activity day and party for the children in Media Luna kindergarten, which was her placement for the last month, and also donated to each child a long sleeved t-shirt, coloured pencils, notebook and a toy.

As usual, the **Inca Project** has been very busy this month. Over one hundred and fifty chickens have been donated between two schools in Amaybamba. The primary school and the colegio are currently running chicken projects with us. The mapping of the ruins along the Inca trail in Sicre has been started, while sports continue with the local teachers in the colegio and primary school in Huyro. Tim held a teacher training course in Huyro on October 28th for all the teachers in the Huayopata region. An Inca social to Vitcos ruins and Yurac Rumi also took place at the end of last month. Reforestation work has continued throughout the month and some exploring up the mountain has also been done, though unfortunately with little success so far. However, volunteers continue to clear the Ccochapata ruins of undergrowth. The attempt to grow some different vegetables including romanesco broccoli and leek as well as basil and rosemary herbs is also taking place in the grounds of Establo. Finally, volunteers held a Halloween party in Establo and also celebrated Chloe Underdown's birthday.

In November we shall be welcoming six new volunteers to the Sacred Valley, Cusco and Huyro...

Joining the teaching programme are two new volunteers. **Anna Swanson** joined us from Puerto Maldonado and the Conservation project to work in IEMx Tahuantinsuyo in Cuyo Chico for one month and is staying with the Mogollon family in PISAQ. **Ike Crews**, is staying in Urubamba with the Ocampo family, and arrived from the Inca Project to work in IEMx General Ollanta.

Coming to the Spanish programme in PISAQ is **Emily Fitzpatrick** who shall be joining us for a month before travelling on to Projects Abroad in Argentina. She will be staying with the Nieto family.

There are three new volunteers joining the Inca project this month. **Daniela Müller** from Switzerland shall be staying on the project for two weeks at the beginning of the month. **Patrick Löffler** shall be joining us for three months from Germany and Australian **Jovana Vasiljevic** shall also be arriving at the end of the month for a month and a half before moving onto the teaching programme in January.

Changing projects this month and joining the Inca Project include **Kathleen Gatti** who has been living in PISAQ and teaching in IEMx Bernardo Tambohuacso. **Mia Kent** shall also be moving from PISAQ and joining the other volunteers in Huyro after completing a month on the Spanish programme.

Finally, joining the Medicine programme is **Silje Bratberg** from Norway who shall be joining us in Cusco to work in the Centro de Salud de Ttio and living with the Ramirez family. Silje will be coming from projects in Costa Rica.

Chincheru



Chincheru is a small Andean Indian village located high up on the windswept plains at 3762m above sea level. Once believed by the Incas to be the birthplace of the rainbow, its major claim to tourism is its Sunday market which is much less tourist-orientated than the market at Pisac. The village mainly comprises of mud brick (adobe) houses, and locals still go about their business in traditional dress.

The site of Chincheru combines Inca ruins with a typical Andean village, a colonial church, some wonderful mountain views and a colourful Sunday market. Access to the ruins is with the Boleto Turistico.

The village may have been an important town in Inca times. The most striking remnant of this period in Chincheru today is the massive stone wall in the main plaza which has ten trapezoidal niches. The construction of the wall and many other ruins and agricultural terraces (which are still in use) are attributed to Inca Tupac Yupanqui who possibly used Chincheru as a kind of country resort.

In the square an adobe colonial church, dating from the early seventeenth century, has been built upon the foundations of an Inca temple or palace. The ceiling and walls are covered in beautiful floral and religious designs, many pertaining to the Cusqueña school. The church is open on Sundays for mass.

Buses go between Urubamba and Cusco, leaving Cusco from Avenida Grau and leave regularly from the bus terminal in Urubamba. The journey takes approximately 50 minutes from Urubamba and will cost about S/. 2.00.



Volunteer News & Events:

Quispicanchis Care Workshops

Last month Care volunteers Elsa Bandelier and Sarah Dahinden had the opportunity to help out Director Tim and Care Supervisor Yessika in workshops which were held in Urcos in coordination with UNICEF and the Ministry of Education. The workshops were designed to help forty *animadoras* from the local communities of Quispicanchis and Paucartambo.



Care volunteers fill the Sacred Valley with the sound of music

Care volunteers were involved in four days of visits to our eight partner placements and sung to the children in both French and English.





Halloween Social

Last month's social took place in Urubamba on Friday 31st October, and as such had a Halloween theme. After enjoying a pizza snack in Pizza Wasi, volunteers took to the streets dressed as witches, cats, super girls, devils amongst other weird and wonderful things, and distributed sweets to children in the streets of Urubamba, a volunteers version of trick or treat.



Vocational training in Urcos

Elsa Bandelier - Care
IEI Media Luna



This town is part of the province of Quispicanchis, more than two hours of journey to the south east of Urubamba.

On Tuesday 14th October in the Projects Abroad office for our weekly Care workshop, Sarah and I were invited by Yessika to participate in a formation for teachers of PRONOEI that would take place in Urcos during the next days.

Before continuing further, I shall explain in a few words about the word PRONOEI.

In Peru, for children between 3 and 5 years old, there are two types of pre-school establishments. On the one hand there are IEIs (Centro de Educacion Inicial) like all the kindergarten placements which work with Projects Abroad Peru. These are educational institutions where the teachers have some kind of diploma which allows them to teach children. On the other hand, there are the PRONOEI (Programas no escolarizado de Educacion Inicial) which are programmes under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Education which seem to be more like care centres because the teachers that work there are locals, who have only finished secondary school and are most of the time elected by the community and have no vocational training.

The PRONOEI exist and are present above all else to fill the space created by a lack of schools and teachers and as a result more children can have access to education and can then move on to primary school.

The first journey to Urcos allowed us to discover Projects Abroad staff worried about the level of education of Peruvian children in places where we have no continuing presence. When we asked about the vocational training workshop in which we were about to participate in, Tim confessed that he still had not decided about the pedagogical content of these days because in his experience getting to know the people, see what they are interested in and need the most are essential before he can consider what he can do with them and what he can not.



Urcos Plaza de Armas

When we arrived in Urcos there were forty teachers of all ages there. The first exercise aimed to test the level of the teachers: we had to write 10 questions that have the answer "en su cama" (in their bed). This first exercise seemed a little

difficult, the teachers were unable to form questions which had any relation to the answer "en su cama," until Tim helped us to open our eyes. Their writing level and their level of grammar was also surprising.



Tarjetas Logicas

Separated later into groups of eight teachers, we directed throughout the morning small activities which presented new materials for classroom activities to the teachers in the form of, for example, cards, blocks or plastic shapes of different colours and shapes. All of these materials are extremely simple so that in the afternoon, with the help of Yessika, we could make these materials with the teachers for each PRONOEI.

During each of these workshops, we left the teachers time to discover alone these new materials without telling them what it was about, as they should do with their students. This is called "exploracion libre" or free exploration, which is important for a child to learn about the material and reflect upon it, using their imagination and logic. Afterwards, we explained to them how to use this material as a teacher with their students, we made them work with these materials and interact.

One of the materials introduced were coloured rectangular forms of different sizes. Very quickly it seemed to Sarah and I that this new material had a mathematical concept and that the shapes represented a quantity according to the number of units that it had. However, the teachers used these to form objects and people and hence they didn't seem to understand the intended use of the material. When explained the objective of this activity, that being for the child to be able to familiarise themselves with the mathematical concept without the need to write numbers, the teachers remained doubtful, did not always understand and made frequent errors.

After a few activities Sarah and I understood more about what Projects Abroad staff had tried to explain to us during that first journey to Urcos.



Juegos de dinamica

To sum up, these PRONOEI teachers which do not have any vocational training teach basic education to children which maybe one day will also be teachers of PRONOEI which have no vocational training but teach basic education to children who...

Well, there is no need to say more to understand that the education system in Peru is going badly.

Throughout these days, we learned a number of mathematical activities (one of which was a method used by the Incas), linguistic activities, logical activities and many games from many other countries as well. But, more than this, the objective was to

make the teachers react and stimulate their students, to tickle their curiosity, and to instill within them the passion to teach in a different more jovial manner. The aim was that they would not leave this training having forgotten these new creative techniques, and that all this new knowledge had a small possibility of reaching the children who would need it.

It would appear that, for the profound respect and great enthusiasm of the PRONOEI teachers towards Tim by the end of the training, the aim seemed to have been achieved. Needless to say, this experience has been very worthwhile for us as well, not only with new knowledge learnt but also through meeting the PRONOEI teachers.

¡ Gracias!





The Great Escape

Lindsay Linning - Teaching (June 2008)
IEMx San Juan Bautista, Coya & IEMx
Tahuantinsuyo, Cuyo Chico

It's an almost impossible task to explain what it was like in Peru for over two months and I don't want to preach about how "life changing it was having such an opportunity". But let me say this: without a doubt these were some of the best ten weeks of my life. Heading into a school nestling amongst the Andes each day on the worse for wear local bus, to help the kids in school, some being the same age as myself, was magic. Everything about these people; their attitudes to life, their appreciation for the little things, their positive outlooks in spite of often adverse circumstances, hit me hard, and I was left to reconsider the way I conduct my own life. Volunteering and living with a native family day in, day out, gives an individual a chance to immerse themselves in a way of life so fundamentally different to our invariably hectic and exhausting Western habits. So much so, that even by my second week, I was left questioning how I am capable of trudging through the daily grind back home. As you can see, I underwent an epiphany of sorts. How profound. Out in Peru, I decided that I had escaped a country consumed by consumerism for a short window of time and by God, wasn't I lucky.

And that was just the start of it all. I am now a fully-fledged Peru fanatic. The flatmates are close to starting up a "Peru jar" for every time the P word or a sentence commencing with "This one time, when I was in Peru..." is mentioned. I must be infuriating. Apologies to all subject to Linning's conversation in recent weeks. Prior to the trip, I presumed that volunteering would be the only focus of my time out there. In reality, volunteering formed the foundation of many other experiences during the ten weeks. From bringing me together with my fellow volunteers, with whom I became so close that we were all able to discuss the latest incident of diarrhoea due to questionable Peruvian cuisine, to our weekends spent travelling through mountain ranges at three thousand meters jostling amidst the local Quechuan mountain folks.



The time necessary to describe these experiences of ten weeks in Peru would take longer than it does to ingratiate the fundamentals of the verb "to be" to a class of

thirty plus Peruvian youngsters. No mean feat, I tell you. Impromptu all night parties with the locals, hostels setting us back eighty pence a night, eating guinea pig for breakfast, food poisoning lasting a week at a time, taking on Machu Picchu, a wonder of the world, kids charging at you full throttle in the playground. They were supreme days.

So I spent eight weeks living in this manner in the idyllic Andes with my new companions. My teaching placement ended and it was time to leave the hills. I had two weeks before my flights home. After a thinking cap session, my next destination called out to me from my trusty Lonely Planet: the Amazon Jungle. I bought my flights a few weeks in advance and went for it. I arrived alone in the jungle city of Iquitos in the north of the country at midnight with not a reservation of any sort made and hopped on a tuk tuk into the depths of the city.



By my flights home at the end of August I had braved classrooms of screaming, demonic children, surpassed death upon the mountain tracks of the Andes, swum in the Amazon River and had survived a physical attack, to name but a few. Just because my attacker was a monkey does not make the reality of the event any less traumatic. I was a new woman and capable of dealing with anything the future could bring. Even falling asleep at the departure gate for a connecting flight and hence proceeding to miss

aforementioned flight only slightly deterred from this new found self faith and assuredness... Homeward bound it was.

A well-known quote from good old Mark Twain rings true to me about this summer, part of which states, "Twenty years from now, you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than the ones you did do." It's worth keeping in mind.

Typical for this month's celebrations is pan wawa...



TANTA WAWA

A little bit of history...

Volunteers last weekend no doubt saw in the local bakeries this typical bread made for the festivals in early November.

Pan wawa (also known as *tantawawas*) literally means baby bread and is made especially for the celebrations which take place on the 1st and 2nd November for *Día de los santos* and *Día de los difuntos*. This pan wawa is baptized and will be taken to the graveside of the deceased family members the following day. The baptized bread baby has parents, *padrinos* (godparents) and someone acting as a priest throughout the acted out ceremony.

The following ingredients is to create one bread baby. You can find smaller *pan wawa* and *pan caballo* which is also eaten during this time in local bakeries.



Ingredients:

- 5 kg flour
- 20 eggs
- 1300g sugar
- 50 g salt
- 20g cinnamon
- ¼ kg powdered milk
- 150g baking powder
- 6 cups of camomile and aniseed water
- 2 tablespoons of vanilla essence
- 1 kg margarine
- 1 kg flour for kneading the dough
- a ceramic face for the baby
- Hundreds and thousands
- 1 egg white

Preparation:

- Place the flour, eggs, sugar, Salt, cinammon, milk, baking powder, and flavoured water into a large container.
- Mix the above ingredients together until you make a firm dough mixture.
- Divide the dough into 600g portions and form them into ... of 15 cm.
- Leave to rise for about three hours.
- Paint and decorate your bread baby.
- Oven bake for about 45 minutes at 180 °C.
- Stick on the ceramic baby face with a little dough and the hundreds and thousands with the egg white.

November Diary

What happens in November?

Festival	Description	Place	Date
Dia de los Santos & Dia de los Difuntos (All Saint's Day & Day of the Dead)	Dedicated to the memory of the dead, All Saints Day and Day of the Dead see Peruvians honouring the dead with Mass, the bringing of flowers to the cemetery and sharing food with the dead. This tradition stems back to pre-Hispanic times in Peru. Typical food around this time includes, pan <i>wawa</i> (bread shaped as babies), as well as tamales and <i>lechón</i> (oven baked pork).	Peru	November 1 - 2
Representation of the rise of the mythic couple Manco Capac and Mama Ocllo	The mythical Incan couple rise from Lake Titicaca	Puno	November 5
Dia de Urubamba	Marching bands and dances will fill the main plaza in celebration of Urubamba's anniversary.	Urubamba	November 9

Announcements

- Please can all new arrivals be aware that you need to pick up your luggage in Lima when arriving from an international flight as it is not forwarded directly onto Cusco. Lima is the first point of entry into the country and you need to pass customs with your luggage.
- Just another reminder to make sure that volunteers are aware that the police are making more identification checks here in Cusco. Please be aware that you need to **always** carry your passport or a legalised photocopy of your passport (which has been signed by a notary) with you, especially if you are traveling within Peru, whether that is to your placement, Cusco or a long weekend in Puno. You may be asked by a police officer for proof of identification and you should be able to present this to them. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask in the office.
- Thank you to everyone who has helped bring about this months issue of *Musuq Chaski*. If you would like to contribute your experiences, stories, photos or anything else to the next edition then please send them to: hannahpartis@projects-abroad.org