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INCA

PROJECTS

Our Inca Projects programme takes place in the Sacred Valley of the Incas, in Peru. Volunteers who are interested in the history of the Inca civilisation and archaeology in general will find this project a practical way to get involved and improve their knowledge.



Exploring the Sacred Valley

Teaching & Projects Abroad works in close association with the Instituto Nacional de Cultura (INC) to establish the areas where volunteers can best help. The project currently combines both archaeological work at sites in and around Cusco, and community projects in both Patabamba and the Sachsayhuaman Park. The third element of our Inca Projects programme involves hikes and expeditions! Our hiking equipment is used regularly and we organise treks and expeditions to places of archaeological importance that are far off the main tourist track.

Sites on which our volunteers are working include Sachsayhuaman, Tambocancha, Zurite, Pisac, Ollantaytambo and the Historical Centre of Cusco in the Andes, and also two amazing sites in the cloud forest: Lauramarca and Incatambo! Most volunteers also choose to visit the most famous site of all – Machu Picchu, either by hiking the four day Inca Trail or by taking the awe-inspiring train journey from Cusco. Lately, most archaeological work has been on the world famous Sachsayhuaman site, where volunteers have been involved in both excavating and clearing the ancient terraces.

The project is dynamic and project-work changes throughout the year, depending on both the weather and the work the Instituto Nacional de Cultura is involved with at the time. In any month, however, volunteers will be involved in a combination of the practical archaeological work, hiking and community projects.

Volunteers live with local host families in the Pisac area. This offers all volunteers the chance to experience real Peruvian life from a non-tourist perspective; invites to celebrate local festivals with the family and a birthday dinner of guinea pig are common occurrences!



Clearing the Inca terraces

“I would recommend the Inca Projects to other people interested in archaeology or who just want to experience life in a different country. It is especially ideal for people studying archaeology or history at university; Peru is superb for people interested in these subjects and the Incas.”

Christopher Anderson



Teaching & 
Projects Abroad

Quotes from volunteers

“I had a great experience with Teaching & Projects Abroad. I felt that I could talk to my manager about any problem. I would definitely recommend Teaching & Projects Abroad to others. I will never forget my experience in Peru.”

Rita Barose

“The four months in Peru were far and away the best of my life to date, not least thanks to the organisation of the projects I was taking part in.”

George Marshall



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ARCHAEOLOGY

With a rich past stretching back as far as Neolithic times, Romania was always going to be a popular location for Teaching & Projects Abroad Archaeology volunteers. Three years into the project the sheer abundance and diversity of the sites and workload continues to defy everyone's expectations.



Saxon grave

Quotes from volunteers

"The feeling you get from finding something unexpected is amazing"

■ Linda Vonken

"The experiences you will have in Romania will, like with me and many others, undoubtedly be told, retold and etched in your memory forever"

■ Amy Sable

Much of the work that you will be doing with us depends on the time of year that you travel with us. In spring the emphasis is on Field Archaeology - where new sites are evaluated. In the summer and early autumn months our archaeologists take part in actual digs in a variety of locations across the region of Transylvania. During the winter months the focus switches towards the exciting field of Experimental Archaeology - which this year involves, among other things, an attempted recreation of ancient silex tools. All year round we are involved in a project where we work hand-in-hand with UNESCO and a trust sponsored by the Prince of Wales to preserve a number of fortified Saxon churches throughout the region.

Here are some of the sites that we work on:

■ Sibiu

Arguably the most beautiful of Romania's cities, Sibiu has been designated the European City of Culture 2007. Following this decision, which was made by EU member states in 2004, a large-scale restoration and reconstruction project was undertaken with the help of Teaching & Projects Abroad volunteers.

■ Bordusani-Popina

We are currently working on the beautiful island of Ialomita, situated on the lower Danube, in partnership with the Romanian National History

Museum and Ialomita County History Museum. This is a long-term project that has already taken us back through Dacian times (2000 BC), is currently at around the 4500 BC level, and looks set to provide us with evidence of communities from as far back as 7000 BC.

■ Braşov

Teaching & Projects Abroad volunteers are currently involved on a vital archaeological project along the site of the proposed Braşov ringroad, which will link the city to the Transylvanian Highway. We have already found a number of Bronze Age sites which will need to be assessed before the road can be built.

■ Harsova

The Neolithic Tell in Harsova is one of the most important historic sites in Romania. The word "Tell" comes from Arabic and it literally means "hill". They appear as a result of hundreds of years of continuous human habitation at a single location, with each new generation living literally on top of the remains of their predecessors. Teaching & Projects Abroad volunteers start work on the site every July, and have so far excavated back through 7000 years of history, to a culture known as the *Hamangia*.



Teaching & Projects Abroad

Further information...

For more information please see our Romania archaeology website: www.archaeology-romania.org
If you would like any further information on these or any other projects please do not hesitate to get in contact with us. Our staff are always happy to help!



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