

Peru at 2015 Smithsonian Folk life Festival in U.S.



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Peru will host this year's Smithsonian Folk life Festival under the name Peru Pachamama, an event that will showcase the country as a tourist and cultural destination, Foreign Trade and Tourism Minister Magali Silva said.

The Peru program will feature projects, organizations, and groups whose cultural expressions highlight these social, cultural, and economic exchanges.

The event will take place Wednesday, June 24, through Sunday, June 28, and Wednesday, July 1, through Sunday, July 5. It will be located on the National Mall in front of the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian, located in Washington D.C.

Folklife Festival Smithsonian celebrates diverse cultures of the United States and the world. Opened in 1967, it brings cultural representatives and artists together to celebrate diversity of cultural traditions. It is produced by Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage.

"The festival will focus on archeology, tradition and crafts. Visitors will appreciate the full extent of knowledge and expertise of local communities who use traditional culture both to honor their ancestors and reinterpret their heritage," the Peruvian minister stated.



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"Peru Pachamama" will feature more than 150 exponents of Peruvian culture that will highlight diversity and vitality of communities inside and outside the country. Musicians, dancers, artists, artisans and cooks will be brought together to show how Peruvians maintain and adapt their traditional culture.

Attendees will learn about 12 different Peruvian communities from 10 regions of Peru, including the O'eswachaka Bridge, whose knowledge and expertise in construction were included in the UNESCO's Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, and the Caballito de Totora boats hand-made by fishermen from totora reeds in Huanchaco, La Libertad.

At the festival, cooks from different regions will showcase specialties from their communities and will talk about ingredients, preparation, and contexts of the dishes.

For instance, Paucartambo locals will prepare "meriendas" (snacks), Huanchaco fisherman will dry "charqui de raya" (stingray jerky), and craftsmen from Ayacucho will be cooking guinea pig, among other things.

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