People of Perú

On our visit to Andahuaylillas Catholic Church, a little chica plays by herself along the streets of the town square.

Lucy demonstrates how she uses natural ingredients to dye her textiles at the textile factory.

A group of people gather outside the local church at the end of our horseback riding journey.
Easter or Semana Santo (Holy Week), is an extremely important religious celebration for the people of Cusco in which the most important day, in religious terms, is Lunes Santos or Holy Monday. For this day of profound devotion, the image of El Señor de los Temblores (the Lord of the Tremors), is removed from the Cathedral and carried in a procession through the streets of Cusco. In its route, a multitude of faithful bathes him with “ñuqch’u”, a wild flower of purple color that symbolizes the blood of Christ. Ever since 1650, when the faithful claim that the oil painting of Christ on the Cross held off a devastating earthquake that was rattling the city of Cuzco, the locals have been rendering homage to the Lord of Earthquakes.

On Monday, many masses are held throughout the morning in honor of the Lord of the Earthquakes, and at around seven in the evening more than one hundred thousand people congregate in the Main Square (picture above) to receive the blessing which the image will impart to the faithful, while the sirens of the local fire service announce the return of the image to the cathedral, as the huge crowd looks on in silence.

The duo Jakaru, plays a plethora of flutes and Peruvian instruments in the courtyard of a local eatery near Ollantaytambo
A lady stands outside selling bread off the main road near Cusco.

Locals arrive on Saturday outside a church in Cusco for a wedding.
This is me posing with a lady and her alpacas. These alpacas are a common sight in and around Cusco.

Here, locals and tourists populate the popular main square in Cusco. The main square is outlined with numerous shops and restaurants and is the location of the Cathedral where the blessing from Lunes Santo is held.