



Eco Build Experience



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📍 Peru - Cajamarca

Help improve living standards for local families by providing eco friendly maintenance, renovation or construction, of their mud homes and community facilities.

Even if you have never built anything before, you can learn, as you participate in our program which will use eco friendly Tapial or Rammed Earth construction methods. This green building project is good for the environment and good for the people who will get to use it. You'll immerse yourself in Peruvian culture in a very unique way!



Program Description

Life for women and children in Perú is harsh and oftentimes they can barely afford daily expenses, so it is common for them to accept basic and or unhealthy living conditions such as open cooking fires, cold water showers or non, rubbish and living quarters left in bad condition for long periods of time. This is also reflected into the communal areas such as schools, churches, clinics and common facilities. Even though 60% of the houses are built in the traditional low cost adobe or tapial methods, maintenance budgets for these structures is rarely considered as a priority.

This is where we saw a way to help!

By providing materials and helping them to repair, renovate or build their traditional Tapial mud homes or communal facilities, and using the donated labour from our participants, we are able to assist the community to achieve this aim.

With renovated Tapial homes and training they'll be able to offer accommodation to rural tourists, allowing them to generate an income. At the same time, we provide an opportunity for you to engage with the community and learn more about them firsthand, as you complete these construction tasks. It is a mutually beneficial exchange!!

In addition, our program aims to revive tradition of the mud homes and to spread awareness of its benefits. Besides it's unique look and feel, mud houses preserve warmth and cooling much better than much of its modern counterpart (concrete buildings) and it is actually a much better fit for the Peruvian weather.

Adobe structures are generally self-made through simple construction practices that do not require as much work. Skilled technicians (e.g. engineers and architects) are not required, hence it is described as "non-engineered construction". Your efforts will improve family homes, community halls and will help to create the first English as Second Language School for the community children.

May to October

Participants may be engaged in segments or the mud house construction process in its entirety, depending upon the length of program service.

Under the supervision of the "maestro de obra" and local workers you will be "hands on" helping in activities such as:

- Tracing the building lines in the property
- Helping setting up the foundations
- Digging on soil to mark foundations
- Setting up of the first wooden clamps/mold frames
- Mud filling and compacting of soil/mud into clamps/mold frames
- Uncovering/unmolding clamp/mold frames

Participants will also be taught the ancient techniques of wall finishing with no paint. Instead they will be shown the process of using mud fine granite.

November to April

This is the rainy season, which means that you'll likely be taking part in activities to help this program through light restoration and indoor construction in the communal areas, such as schools, churches, health care facilities and community centers, as well.

Program Duration & Availability

Min duration (weeks): 1

Aims & Objectives

- Assist the locals with construction and renovation efforts in an organized team
- Create cultural exchange opportunities through our efforts with the locals
- Lend a hand to assist the local NGO in other areas including training delivery and marketing
- Develop your teamwork and skills through hands on activity

Schedule

Sunday

- If this is your first day, an orientation will take place in Cajamarca before program transfer

Monday to Friday

- Breakfast
- Briefing
- Complete assigned daily construction tasks
- Lunch break
- Complete assigned daily construction tasks
- Dinner
- Free evening

This schedule can be changed and/or amended depending on weather conditions, local conditions and unforeseen circumstances.

Starting Dates

During 2019

This program starts every week.

During 2020

This program starts every week.

Participant Criteria & Requirements

Minimum age:	-
Maximum age:	-
Minimum English level:	Basic
CRB required:	On Signup
Passport copy required:	No
Resume copy required:	No
Required qualification:	None

Additional Requirements

There are no specific requirements.

Additional Equipment

- Rubber boots or waterproof shoes (if rainy season)
- Leather gloves (if rainy season)