

Destination

Puno - Lago Titicaca

Traditional Dates



Q'ashwa de San Sebastián

From: January 20, 2016
to: January 20, 2016

Known as “Little Carnival,” this celebration marks the start of the main Carnival, or “Huch’uy Poqoy.” It features traditional dances on Huayna Roque Hill, with troupes of Machuaychas and Chiñipillcos. The Q’ashwa de San Sebastián was declared Cultural Heritage of the Nation. Among other activities, it includes a payment to Mother Earth, or “Pachamama,” performed on the guardian hills (“apus”) of Huayna Roque and Santa Cruz.



Feast of Our Lady of Candelaria

From: January 16, 2016
To: February 09, 2016

For two weeks or more, Puno becomes the Folklore Capital of the Americas. The celebration gets into full swing on February 2 with mass and the procession of the image of Our Lady of Candelaria, accompanied by the faithful, dancers, and sikuri musicians. The festivities feature traditional dance competitions, where hundreds of musicians and dancers compete in colorful garb. The feast is tied to the Pre-Hispanic farming cycles of sowing and harvesting (the worship of the Pachamama, or Mother Earth) as well as mining activity in the region. Puno.



Feast of the Crosses and Las Alasitas Fair

From: May 3, 2016
To: May 3, 2016

The Feast of the Crosses and the Las Alasitas Fair is a special occasion on which locals offer miniature handicrafts at a series of fairs set up in the streets or at traditional sites in each city, symbolizing the objects one wishes to possess, such as houses, cars, and money. Residents travel from all over to buy their miniature objects, in a celebration that also features Bolivian artisans and their work.



Anniversary of the Founding of the City of Puno

From: November 4, 2016

To: November 4, 2016

The city's founding is celebrated with civic events and dance shows in the streets of Puno. On November 5, the emergence of Manco Cápac and Mama Ocllo from Lake Titicaca is reenacted. According to legend, the mythical pair walked out of the lake in search of lands on which to found the Inca Empire.



Reenactment of the Emergence of Manco Cápac and Mama Ocllo

From: November 5, 2016

To: November 5, 2016

On the eve of Puno's anniversary. Reenactment of the emergence of Manco Cápac and Mama Ocllo, as well as a folklore parade featuring the students of the San Carlos School.



Holy Week in Chucuito

From: April, 2016

To: April, 2016

The celebrations include flower picking, a range of typical dishes (anywhere from 6 to 12 dishes throughout the week), the building of litters using natural flowers, masses, and processions.