

Christina Bovell

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Although I had valuable experiences in each country that we visited on the study tour, there were some that I enjoyed more than others. In Colombia, my favorite activity was visiting the coffee plantation and picking some of the beans for myself. I really valued the opportunity of participating in an important cultural act of Colombians. It was one thing to watch but another thing to contribute. In Peru, my favorite activity was hiking up Machu Picchu. Earlier that morning, I had been sick and nauseous. By the time we had reached Machu Picchu, I felt horribly sick from the altitude as well as food poisoning from the night before. Several people insisted that I hang back and rest, but I refused. I was determined to see the ruin, and when I did I knew that my determination was rewarded with beholding one of the 7 modern wonders of the world. ...Above all, my favorite activity during the entire trip were the buggy ride through Natal, Brasil. The buggy rides on the beaches in Natal allowed me to see scenes that took my breath away. The thrill of riding up, down, and even sideways

the United States of America. For example, the food and meal choices are very different. They eat more plant based food while Americans tend to eat a great amount of processed foods. Their meat choices are different as well, including animals such as guinea pigs and alpacas for Peruvians. I believe that I ate more beans, rice, and French fries in those 3-4 weeks than I had in the past 5 years of my life. I also noticed the difference in technology. The United States of America fairly advanced when it comes to technology. Devices like iPhones and iPads are common as well as access to the Internet is being abundant and everywhere. However, in the countries we visited, iPhones were scarce and Wi-Fi was not always promised. They do not have a great need for it like most Americans do. I observed differences between each South American country as well. I noticed that Colombians are more Americanized where as Peruvians are still fairly indigenous and true to their roots. I also realized that the Argentinians are more European