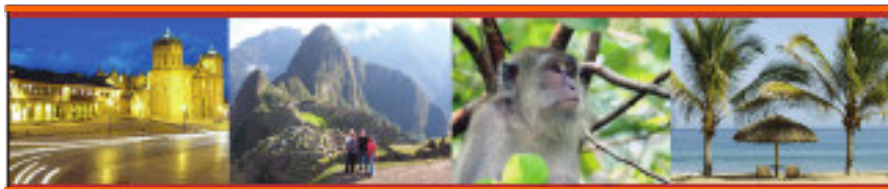




# **NATIVE SPANISH PROGRAM 2009**

**Cusco, Peru  
San Jose, Costa Rica  
Asheville, North Carolina**

**For those who live it!**



## About Máximo Nivel / Máximo Level

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Máximo Level was founded in Cusco, Peru in 2003. We opened another institute in San Jose, Costa Rica shortly thereafter. Máximo Level has grown rapidly since its inception and inow offers its original Native English Program, Native Spanish Program, international volunteer and internship programs, and our TEFL/TESOL Certification program in Peru and Costa Rica.

Máximo Level has over 1400 English students; we host 20 to 80 Spanish students each week; and our TEFL/TESOL program includes 5 to 12 people each month; and still the institute is growing every month. Our success is based on our commitment to quality and to providing the highest level of service possible to all of our clients.

### Intensive Spanish Immersion

Our Native Spanish Program appeals to adventure seekers, working professionals, and entire families because we offer the most intensive and professional Spanish programs available. Whether you want to boost your standing at university, add to your career skills, or put your world travels on the fast track, we have a Spanish course and a certified, native, Spanish teacher for you.

Máximo Level's language centers also function as social centers with free snack bar and Internet, office-wide WIFI, salsa lessons, movie night, and our monthly open-bar International Party. We also have a free Tandem Conversation Program offering free conversation practice to supplement your regular classes.

University credit is available for Máximo Level's Spanish language programs. There are two ways to receive university credit:

#### **BROOKHAVEN COLLEGE**

You can receive credit through our affiliation with Brookhaven College, which you can then transfer to your school. How much credit you earn depends on your Spanish level and how many weeks you study with us.

#### **YOUR UNIVERSITY**

We have worked with several universities that grant credit for our courses, and we can provide your school with all documentation needed for you to receive credit. Each university is different and requires different documentation. This can include a course syllabus, a record of total hours taken, teacher evaluations, attendance reports, curriculum covered, a final exam with letter grade, and other documents. Maximum Level will provide any of these reports or other documentation as needed. Just let us know what your school requires.

### Facilities

Máximo Level's offices have been designed with the needs of our clients and staff in mind. Every location provides modern computers running Windows XP, high-speed Internet connections including office-wide WIFI access, a small library, and a snack bar where every morning the coffee and tea are piping hot and FREE.

# Native Spanish Program

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In three of the world's most cultural cities—Cusco, Peru, San Jose, Costa Rica, and Asheville, North Carolina—Máximo Nivel offers its unique Native Spanish Program for intensive language training or extended study of the Spanish language. Máximo Nivel offers all levels of Spanish instruction, as well as special Medical Spanish classes.

Máximo Nivel is not a typical Spanish School. We are an executive language center offering the most intensive and effective Spanish courses in Latin America. Máximo Nivel employs only the most experienced native Spanish instructors, all of them actual teachers—either certified in teaching Spanish as a foreign language or with their Bachelors and/or Masters in Education. We offer an incomparable service to improve your Spanish, whether you are looking for a 5-day crash-course or a 6-month extended program.

Máximo Nivel also offers our well-known Native English Program to Peruvian and Costa Rican learners. Via our optional Tandem Conversation Program, our Spanish clients can join free conversation practice when we team them up with local residents who are studying in our intensive English programs. This "tandem" conversation practice is an excellent addition to regular Spanish classes.

## Program Summary

On your first day, you will participate in a brief orientation, take a language placement test, and then be placed at an appropriate level. Throughout your language training, the teacher will continuously assess your ability in the 4 language skills – Speaking, Listening, Reading, and Writing; and the 4 language systems—Grammar, Vocabulary, Phonology, and Function.

### **BASIC**

Basic classes are for learners with no previous experience in Spanish. Learners will be taught basic grammatical structures, vocabulary, and will immediately begin speaking in Spanish, thereby gaining a concrete foundation in the language.

### **HIGH BASIC**

For learners with an elementary knowledge of the Spanish language, these classes focus on reinforcing grammar, teaching new vocabulary, and increasing speaking capacity, enabling you to express yourself clearly in daily situations.

### **PRE-INTERMEDIATE I & II**

These classes build on learners' previous experience with Spanish, reinforcing all areas of the language, with an increasing importance placed on speaking, reading, and vocabulary-building.

### **INTERMEDIATE I & II**

At this point, learners likely speak Spanish, but are still struggling with the more difficult grammar points. These classes focus primarily on conversation, reading, and vocabulary-building; as well as on increasing your grammatical accuracy by reinforcing areas such as the use of the 'subjunctive' and 'indefinite past'. Focus is on the ability to express yourself spontaneously and to interact across a variety of social situations with increasing accuracy.

### **HIGH INTERMEDIATE I & II**

These classes build on learners' conversational base in Spanish, and begin to more finely tune communicative competence by building vocabulary and introducing students to idioms, slang, and points of 'common usage' in Spanish. High Intermediate classes also include emphasis on written expression.

### **ADVANCED I & II**

Advanced classes at the first and second level continue to fine tune learners' Spanish skills. Emphasis is placed on advanced communicative competence – the ability to communicate completely in the Spanish language, across all kinds of situations. Classes emphasize oral skills, sophisticated vocabulary, and increasing students' understanding and ability to use idiomatic Spanish.

### **The Native Spanish Program Includes:**

- Official Spanish program certification
- Certified, native Spanish teacher
- Spanish placement exam
- Free Spanish textbook and materials
- Free Tandem Conversation Program
- Free access to high-speed Internet and computers
- Office-wide WIFI access
- Free Salsa lessons
- Monthly International Party with open bar
- Emergency contact number 24/7
- A toll-free emergency hotline in the U.S.

### **We Take Good Care of You**

Máximo Nivel offers you a wide range of services to help make sure your program is both comfortable and enjoyable. We advise you on what to bring for your trip; what airlines to fly; what type of accommodation best suits you; how much money you need to bring; visa requirements (if any); and all of the ins and outs of day-to-day life in Peru and Costa Rica.

From the moment you arrive, we put all of our efforts into making your stay enjoyable. We meet you at the airport and take you to your family-stay or other accommodation. We provide you with all the information you need regarding cash machines, shopping, trekking, sightseeing, and nightlife.

Every month our international program participants are invited to our monthly International Party including open bar and salsa dancing!

Every program participant is provided with an emergency telephone number to reach a member of the executive team 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

## Accreditation

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As an internationally accredited institute, Máximo Nivel must adhere to strict codes of practice and maintain the highest professional standards.

Accreditation by an external educational body is vital if you wish to receive a certification that is recognized worldwide. All of our programs are accredited by the Peruvian Ministry of Education. In Costa Rica, we are affiliated with Universidad Juan Pablo II, and in the United States, Brookhaven College (Texas) provides university credit for some of Máximo Nivel's programs. Máximo Nivel is also an institutional member of The College of Teachers in the United Kingdom.



### **Beware of Unaccredited Courses!**

Certificates from unaccredited programs do not carry the same weight as those that are recognized on an international level. Be sure that the course you attend is accredited by an officially recognized accrediting agency.

# Housing Options

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## **The Family House – Bed, Breakfast & Dinner**

The Family House offers accommodations similar to a traditional family-stay, but with more independence and privacy. Both private and shared rooms are available as are private and shared bathrooms. Your stay includes breakfast, lunch, and dinner Monday through Sunday. There's lots of opportunity to practice your Spanish with Mauricio, Ruth, and the rest of the Peruvian staff. The Family House is within walking distance (10-20 minutes) from the Máximo Level office.

## **Family-Stay**

Family-stays are all with pre-approved families and include breakfast, lunch, and dinner Monday through Sunday. Most family-stays include a private room with shared bath, though this varies based on family. Guests are free to come and go as they please, but they must respect the routine and rules of the family. All family-stays are within walking distance (10-25 minutes) or within a 5-15 minute bus or taxi ride from the Máximo Level office.

## **Hostel**

Máximo Level works with three different hostels, and you may elect this option if you want to save money while still remaining 100% independent. All hostels are clean and safe with excellent service and amenities including TV rooms and 24-hour kitchens. Hostel accommodations include private rooms with private bath, and all hostels are walk distance (5-15 minutes) from the Máximo Level office.

## **Private or Shared Apartment**

Private apartments are all very comfortable and fully furnished. Apartments come with equipped kitchens including all plates and utensils required to live comfortably and cook for yourself. Apartments are centrally located and are within easy walking distance or a short taxi ride to the Máximo Level office. Shared apartments are also available on a limited basis; please inquire when registering.

## **Hotel (3-Star)**

Máximo Level works with two 3-star hotels, both of which are modern and comfortable with all the necessary amenities plus breakfast is included. All hotel rooms are private with a private bath. If you desire more luxurious accommodations please request the hotel option when you register and we will email you with a separate price.

## Other Programs @ Máximo Level

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### TEFL/TESOL Certification

The Máximo Level onsite certification program is designed for people who want a professional, accredited certification to teach English anywhere in the world. The 4-week/150-hour program includes 100 hours of classroom instruction and 25 hours of practical teaching and observation and an additional 25 hours of required self-study and research outside of the classroom.

The onsite course is characterized by extremely high academic content and also includes an excellent practical teaching component. The overall aim of the course is to provide you with a professional graduate-level TESOL/TEFL course, including a balance between the theory and methodology of ESL.

### CERTIFICATION

Upon completion of either the TEFL/TESOL Certification program, graduates receive two certificates: 1) the Máximo Level TEFL/TESOL Certificate and 2) the College of Teachers Certificate of Educational Studies in TESOL (COES). As well, all participants receive a personalized recommendation letter from the Executive Director of Máximo Level that can be included with your resume/CV as an employment reference when applying for teaching positions anywhere in the world.

The Máximo Level TEFL/TESOL Certification program is your first step toward more travel, more adventure, and better prospects as an English teacher. As an **accredited TEFL/TESOL course provider** in Peru and Costa Rica we offer comprehensive training, a professional, supportive, and fun environment, and unparalleled career and job-finding assistance.

### Volunteer & Internship Program

Máximo Level offers volunteer and internship projects in Peru and Costa Rica. These projects provide the unique opportunity to live and work in Peru and/or Costa Rica while experiencing the countries' rich cultural diversity and building your proficiency in Spanish. Through the various project opportunities you are able to make a contribution to global society while at the same time bettering yourself.

### PROJECT AREAS

Projects offer opportunities for international travelers and students to help out, develop skills and even undertake in-depth study of a particular area in an international setting. Volunteer and internship opportunities include:

- Childcare
- Healthcare
- Environment & Conservation
- International Business
- Teaching English
- Construction
- Not-for-profit/NGOs
- Social issues (Poverty, religion, etc.)

## Programs & Tuition - 2009

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The following course schedules and prices apply to both Peru and Costa Rica. When registering, please be sure to specify if you plan to study in our Peru or Costa Rica office.

### Private Instruction

#### PERU

#### COSTA RICA

PROGRAM	Weekly	4 Weeks	Weekly	4 Weeks
1 hour/day	\$45	\$170	\$70	\$265
2 hours/day	\$90	\$335	\$145	\$525
3 hours/day	\$130	\$505	\$210	\$780
4 hours/day	\$180	\$670	\$280	\$1,020
Extra Week	Please inquire about our special prices for extended and super-intensive courses.			
Máximo Nivel <u>never</u> charges a sign-up fee and you are <u>never</u> charged for changing your class schedule. If you must miss classes – with 24 hours notice – your classes are simply rescheduled and you never lose money.				

### Small Group Instruction

#### PERU

#### COSTA RICA

PROGRAM	Weekly	4 Weeks	Weekly	4 Weeks
2 hours/day	\$55	\$190	\$95	\$360
3 hours/day	\$85	\$295	\$138	\$510
4 hours/day	\$105	\$385	\$142	\$540
Extra Week	Please inquire about our special prices for extended and super-intensive courses.			
Máximo Nivel <u>never</u> charges a sign-up fee and you are <u>never</u> charged for changing your class schedule. If you must miss classes – with 24 hours notice – your classes are simply rescheduled and you never lose money.				
Note that the 3 hour/day option includes 2 hours in small group and 1 hour in private instruction.				

## Housing & Accommodations (Private Rooms)

Prices below are based on private rooms. Discounts are available if you prefer to share a room. Please email us for shared room pricing — [International@maximonivel.com](mailto:International@maximonivel.com)

<b>PERU – HOUSING OPTIONS</b>	
<b>THE FAMILY HOUSE</b>	
<b>Weekly</b>	\$140
<b>4 Weeks</b>	\$450
<b>FAMILY-STAY</b>	
<b>Weekly</b>	\$175
<b>4 Weeks</b>	\$475
<b>SHARED APARTMENT</b>	
<b>Weekly</b>	\$65
<b>4 Weeks</b>	\$250
<b>PRIVATE APARTMENT</b>	
<b>Weekly</b>	\$125
<b>4 Weeks</b>	\$400
<b>HOSTEL</b>	
<b>Weekly</b>	\$210
<b>4 Weeks</b>	\$810
<b>HOTEL</b>	
<b>Weekly</b>	\$420
<b>4 Weeks</b>	\$1,620

<b>COSTA RICA – HOUSING OPTIONS</b>	
<b>THE FAMILY HOUSE</b>	
<b>Weekly</b>	n/a
<b>4 Weeks</b>	n/a
<b>FAMILY-STAY</b>	
<b>Weekly</b>	\$175
<b>4 Weeks</b>	\$475
<b>SHARED APARTMENT</b>	
<b>Weekly</b>	\$125
<b>4 Weeks</b>	\$400
<b>PRIVATE APARTMENT</b>	
<b>Weekly</b>	\$200
<b>4 Weeks</b>	\$650
<b>HOSTEL</b>	
<b>Weekly</b>	\$315
<b>4 Weeks</b>	\$1,215
<b>HOTEL</b>	
<b>Weekly</b>	\$385
<b>4 Weeks</b>	\$1485

## Frequently Asked Questions

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### **Why should I study at Máximo Level?**

Founded, owned and operated by Giovanna and Ken Jones, Máximo Level is not just an average Spanish school - it is an executive language center offering the Native Spanish Program as well as TEFL/TESOL Certification, and the Native English Program. In addition to our Peruvian and international accreditations, Máximo Level is also closely partnered with the following international organizations: IVHQ, BridgeLinguatéc, GVN, INTESOL International, LanguageCourses.Net, Global Crossroad, and Volunteer Adventures, among others.

### **How long are your programs? When can I start?**

Máximo Level is unique in offering flexible programs in order to accommodate your travel and trekking schedule. Our clients can choose to study 2 hours, 3 hours, 4 hours or more each day. Most programs are 1 to 4 weeks long. However, Máximo Level also offers long-stay programs of 3 to 12 months for people who wish to build full Spanish proficiency. Group classes begin every Monday, and private classes can begin any day of the week.

### **How many hours of instruction do you recommend?**

That depends on your individual goals for learning Spanish. You may study for as little as one week; however, we recommend a minimum study period of two weeks. We normally do not recommend more than 3 hours per day of study. However, for clients who want to study 4 or 6 hours a day we will happily tailor your program to your needs.

### **Who typically attends Máximo Level?**

People of all ages come to Máximo Level, from young adults to retirees. The majority of our clients are travelers ranging in age from 20 to 55. Máximo Level attracts people from many different backgrounds and parts of the world, including the U.S., Europe, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Israel, and Canada.

### **What levels of Spanish are offered?**

Máximo Level offers 8 levels of Spanish: Basic, High-Basic, Pre-Intermediate I, Pre-Intermediate II, Intermediate I, Intermediate II, Advanced I, and Advanced II.

### **Do I have the same teacher every week?**

Yes. In our short-term classes (<1 month), consistency, trust, and chemistry between the client and teacher are critical components of the learning process. Clients studying Spanish 4 hours per day are usually teamed with two teachers - one for the first 2 hours and the other for the next 2 hours, but even then these teachers remain consistent throughout the program of study.

Clients studying long-term at Máximo Level (2 months>) are encouraged to change teachers after 2 months, as the change in teaching style and accent are also important components to building Spanish proficiency.

## Can children study Spanish?

Yes. Máximo Nivel offers a family friendly learning environment for parents traveling to Peru and/or Costa Rica with their children. We are happy to provide classes for your children or for the whole family together. However, for younger children, a different schedule may be recommended depending on the child's maturity level. Máximo Nivel has experience teaching children as young as five years old. Babysitting service during class time hours can also be arranged at an additional cost.

## What Should I Bring?

When traveling anywhere, it is best to leave behind your preconceptions and what you're used to - and enjoy the differences. After all, that's why you're traveling.

The key to packing for a trip to Peru is to pack for a variety of conditions. The best way to deal with the extremes that Peru has to offer – the intense sun during the day, the cold mountain nights, and the heat and humidity of the Amazon Basin – is to dress using several layers.

The key to packing for Costa Rica is to prepare for a warm and often humid climate. The coastal areas are steamy and hot with lots of sunshine; and the San Jose (Central Valley) region is warm by day and cool by night with intermittent sunshine and light rain.

### SUGGESTED PACKING LIST – PERU

- Day pack
- Comfortable walking shoes
- Hiking boots
- 2 pairs of pants (lightweight)
- 2 T-shirts
- 1 short-sleeved shirt
- 2 long-sleeved shirt
- 1 pair of shorts
- Thermal underwear
- Fleece jacket
- Hat or cap
- Towel and personal bath kit
- Sun block, lip balm, sun glasses
- Camera

### SUGGESTED PACKING LIST – COSTA RICA

- Day pack
- Comfortable walking shoes or hiking boots
- Sandals
- 2 pairs of pants (lightweight)
- 2 T-shirts
- 3 short-sleeved shirts
- 1 long-sleeved shirt
- 3 pairs of shorts and bathing suit
- Hat or cap
- Towel and personal bath kit
- Sun block, sun glasses
- Camera

### STUDY MATERIALS

- Laptop computer (if possible)
- Notebook and pen
- Spanish-English dictionary

## **How much extra money should I bring?**

Carrying extra money depends on your personal spending habits, and you may want some extra money for personal expenses, sight-seeing, souvenirs, etc. Generally speaking, we recommend bringing about \$ 250.00 (USD), or just bring your credit card. Note, travelers checks in Costa Rica in Peru tend to be problematic to use and are NOT recommended.

The best method for getting money is to simply use ATMs. Most banks in Peru and Costa Rica offer 24-hour ATM access.

## **Do I need a Visa to enter Peru or Costa Rica?**

Depending on where you are from you may or may not need a special visa to enter Peru or Costa Rica. Most people, including those from the U.S., Canada, Australia, and Europe, automatically receive a 90-day tourist visa upon entering Costa Rica and 183 days upon entering Peru.

## **Will I have phone and Internet access?**

Máximo Nivel's offices have international phone and Fax service. As well, our clients and students have free access to our computer centers with high speed internet and WiFi connections; and all the computers run Windows and Microsoft Office. Access to our offices and Internet facilities are available 7 days a week.

Projects based in the rainforest or in rural settings will not have the same phone and Internet service as Cusco and San Jose. Volunteers must be prepared for intermittent service or no service in these areas. In the most rural projects the only communication available is by shortwave radio.

## **What should I do in case of an emergency?**

If you experience an emergency while you are in Peru, please contact Máximo Nivel immediately. If your family needs to reach you they can do so via the following numbers:

Máximo Nivel (Cusco Office): +51 84 25 7200

Máximo Nivel (San Jose Office): +506 2253 9220

Máximo Nivel (USA Message Center): +1 877 433 4141

## **Is the water safe to drink?**

Tap water in Peru is NOT safe for drinking, BUT water straight from the tap in Costa Rica is excellent. Tap water can be purified by boiling it or adding purification tablets, such as *Micropur*, which can be purchased at most pharmacies. Generally speaking, bottled water is easy to buy in stores. Showering and brushing your teeth with water is rarely a problem.

## **Do I need vaccinations?**

It is recommended that travelers to Peru and Costa Rica have vaccinations for Hepatitis A and Tetanus. Typhoid and Yellow Fever are sometimes recommended, but are not necessary. Malaria is not a threat in either Costa Rica or Peru. Other immunizations may be necessary depending upon the circumstances of your project and personal medical history. You should visit a travel-health clinic or your physician at least four weeks before arriving in Peru.

### **Should I bring any medicine?**

It is recommended that you bring medications for travelers' diarrhea. The best way to prevent traveler's diarrhea is to be careful of the food and water that you eat and drink. *Ciprofloxacin* (Cipro) or *Levofloxacin* (Levaquin) are good choices for treatment of traveler's diarrhea.

In Peru, *Acetazolamide* is the drug most often used to prevent altitude sickness. The usual dosage is 125 milligrams or 250 milligrams two or three times daily starting 24 hours before ascent, and continuing for 48 hours after reaching altitude.

See your physician for specific recommendations.

### **Are Peru and Costa Rica safe countries?**

Yes, and you can relax while you are here.

That said, it's still important to use common sense.

- Be careful if traveling on buses, as petty theft is common.
- Ask for a receipt when you store your backpack or luggage.
- Do NOT carry your passport or any credit cards and cash that you will not need.
- Use only registered taxis.
- Do not walk into unknown areas by yourself at night.
- Avoid any contact with drugs, as laws are very strict in Peru.

## Contact Máximo Level

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Please contact us with any questions.

We are dedicated to making your Spanish program a great intercultural experience.

### CUSCO, PERU

Avenida El Sol 612

Cusco, Perú

Tel: +51 84 25 7200

Email: [Info@maximonivel.com](mailto:Info@maximonivel.com)

### SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA

Antiguo Higueron

San Pedro-San Jose, Costa Rica

Tel: +506 2253 9220

Email: [Info@maximonivel.com](mailto:Info@maximonivel.com)

### ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

1854A Hendersonville Road, Ofc. 250

Asheville, North Carolina 28803 USA

Tel: +1 828 414 4204

Voice Mail (toll free): +1 877 433 4141

Email: [Info@maximonivel.com](mailto:Info@maximonivel.com)

### Payment Options by Internet



### Payment Options in Peru and Costa Rica



### THE IMPORTANCE OF STUDYING SPANISH

#### SPANISH IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT LANGUAGES IN THE WORLD

By population, Spanish is the second most widely spoken language in the world, second only to Chinese. (Summer Institute for Linguistics, 1999)

There are 332 million native Spanish speakers in the world.

15% of the population in the U.S. speaks Spanish as their native language.

#### LANGUAGES MAKE YOU MORE VALUABLE

A person who knows 2 languages has the value of 2 people.

After English, Spanish is the most valuable language to know.

Your salary and your career opportunities increase when you speak a second language

#### START LEARNING SPANISH TODAY!

Studying Spanish shows you are committed to bettering yourself and your career.

Studying Spanish shows you are educated, knowledgeable, and worldly.

Studying Spanish today is a commitment to yourself, to your career, and overcoming procrastination.