

# Healing Retreat Agreement

The following Terms and Conditions have been designed as a result of our practical experience, and serve to prepare our guests for a positive and safe experience in ceremony and in a workshop as a whole.

The ayahuasca used at the Yachaywasi Lodge is an Amazonian decoction of the vine *banisteriopsis caapi* (ayahuasca) and the leaves of the shrub *psychotria viridis* (chacruna). We do not use any other plants in our ayahuasca. The healers and facilitators administering the ayahuasca will use their discretion to adjust the dose for each participant.

The effects of ayahuasca may include temporary changes in your perception of reality and way of thinking, visions (of abstract motifs or clearly identifiable images and scenarios), heightened negative and positive emotions, access to detailed memories that you had forgotten, paranormal phenomena, the emergence of fears or difficult emotions (some of which may be associated with blockages in the body causing pain and tension), introspection, and perinatal or transpersonal experiences (in which you may experience your own death and rebirth).

On a physical level, you may experience nausea, vomiting, chills, tingling, ringing in the ears, dizziness, diarrhea, tremors, sweating, ataxia, and, in rare cases, fainting. Sometimes, especially if you have not drunk ayahuasca before, you may not notice any visionary effects. If that happens, it does not mean the ayahuasca is not having an effect on other levels.

The ayahuasca experience is not linear, but rather it passes through different phases, some more pleasant, even euphoric, and others more difficult. Ayahuasca works to integrate unresolved aspects from the past that have arisen typically from trauma, emotional loss, neglect, abuse, and general emotional and psychological difficulties. During and after ceremonies it is not uncommon to experience emotional, psychological, and physical discomforts, which are typically symptoms of the healing process as ayahuasca helps you to integrate issues from the past that have been trapped in your system.

The healers and facilitators are committed to protecting your physical and emotional security, integrity, and privacy throughout the process, and intend to provide you with the psychological and physical support you need during the preparation phase, the ceremonies themselves, and the period afterwards. We have an emergency protocol and commit to provide any necessary support should the need arise.

Your participation in the ceremonies is entirely voluntary and you are free to opt out, if you wish, before the start of the ceremony. However, you must follow the instructions of the facilitators and healers at all times so that your safety is not jeopardized.

The healers and facilitators may, at any time, decide to exclude you from participation in a ceremony for any perceived impairment in your physical or psychological health that risks leading to problems for you during the ceremony, or if you do not meet the requirements for participation for any other reason.

Working with ayahuasca is not a substitute for medical, psychiatric, or psychotherapeutic treatment, but may complement a therapeutic process and facilitate personal development. If you are currently receiving treatment of any kind or taking any medication, you must provide the full details of your situation prior to booking a workshop.

If you agree to participate in a workshop at the Yachaywasi Lodge, you will be required to complete a medical form and questionnaire. You must answer all questions honestly and to disclose any relevant personal information about your health.

By accepting these Terms and Conditions, you also agree to the following Declaration, wherein "I" refers to "You", the participant in the workshop.

You will be required to sign a copy of the following Declaration and Terms and Conditions upon arrival.

# Declaration

v I am aware that participation in a workshop and ceremonies at the Yachaywasi Lodge involves the use of ayahuasca and various Amazonian medicinal plants, which are traditionally used in the Amazon rainforest for shamanic healing.

v I understand that taking these plants may involve emotional, psychological, and physical reactions, and I agree to take part and abide by the Terms and Conditions in this document and any other instructions given orally or in writing.

v I declare that I am choosing to participate of my own free will and have not been coerced into participating in a workshop by the organizers or by any other person. The decision to participate is mine alone, and is based on my own personal assessment of the effects, the exclusion criteria, the potential risks and benefits, the focus of the ceremonies, and the team at the Yachaywasi Lodge.

v The Yachaywasi Lodge has explained to me what to expect from the workshop and how it is intended to proceed. I am aware that I can ask questions about the ceremonies at any time and can change my mind about attending at any time before the ceremonies begin.

v I agree to answer all questions honestly during the screening process, and understand that I must complete all medical questionnaires and respond to all follow up questions in order to participate in a workshop. I agree to provide all relevant information regarding my medical history, mental and physical health, and any other information that may serve to protect my health during this process.

v I have made the confidential disclosures requested by the Organizer and these are honest and accurate regarding my needs and condition(s). I understand that these will be kept in the strictest confidence. I reiterate my understanding of this by signing this form.

v I accept full responsibility for participating in a workshop and in ceremonies at the Yachaywasi Lodge.

v I understand and agree that I can be excluded from participation in a workshop or ceremony at the discretion of the facilitator.

# Terms and Conditions

This agreement is between the Yachaywasi Lodge (the Organizer) and You (the Participant).

By booking a Workshop at the Yachaywasi Lodge you agree to all of the following items listed:

1. The Participant agrees to take part in ayahuasca and medicinal plant ceremonies with the Organizer, has been advised that ayahuasca is a visionary plant, and is clear on the meaning of this.
2. The Organizer will do their utmost to ensure the safety and comfort of the Participant within the remit of the workshop. The Participant, in turn, agrees to exercise caution and consideration for themselves and for others during this event, and indemnifies the Organizer against claims for injury or loss.
3. The Participant agrees to respect all individuals at all times. Overt negativity or disruptive negativity detracts from the experience of the others.
4. The Organizer reserves the right to expel any individual who is acting in an excessively negative manner or disrupting the group, staff, and/or shamans, without prior notice, responsibility for a refund, or providing accommodation outside of the Temple.
5. If a Participant's behavior presents a threat to the safety of themselves or others, the Organizer reserves the right to physically restrain the Participant and/or expel them from the workshop without prior notice, responsibility for a refund, or providing accommodation outside of the Temple. Restraint will be conducted as gently as possible and with respect for the dignity of the Participant.
6. Sexual activity between Participants and/or staff is prohibited. This includes married couples. Should a Participant develop a sexual or romantic interest in another person, any sexual contact/activity must be delayed for two weeks after the last ceremony. As a reminder, we are not attempting to create a moral or philosophical boundary but preventing the potentially dangerous crossing of energetic fields, which can result from sexual behavior while engaged in

ayahuasca ceremonies. The Participant agrees to maintain sexual abstinence for two weeks before the first and two weeks after the last ceremony.

7. The Participant, prior to entry into this Agreement, agrees to obtain health or medical advice as to the effect of plants singly and in combination with any medication they are taking.
8. The Participant agrees that they are in a physical and mental condition appropriate to the activities described in this workshop and agrees to participate at their own risk. The responsibility for taking accurate and timely health precautions and professional medical advice is with the Participant.
9. The Participant agrees to full disclosure with Organizer, in writing, regarding their health history, medical conditions, and any medications they are taking, prior to booking.
10. The Participant agrees to notify the Organizer of any change in their medical circumstances and understands that withholding medical information could be dangerous to their health.
11. The Organizer is not responsible for the personal decision of any guest to stop taking medication or change their medication schedule, and accepts no liability for any adverse effects from withdrawal from any medication.
12. The Participant confirms that they have not been diagnosed with any psychotic disorder, including schizophrenia, schizophreniform, schizoaffective, delusional, or bi-polar disorder.
13. The Participant understands and agrees to adhere strictly to the required diet, drug, and pharmacological restrictions required by the Temple for at least two weeks prior to the first ceremony and for at least two weeks following the last ceremony. The three most fundamental restrictions are street drugs (cocaine, ecstasy, LSD, etc.), sexual activity, and pork.
14. If the Participant does not adhere to these Terms and Conditions as well as all restrictions required by the Temple, the Organizer will not be held liable for the consequences (which can be severe psychological and energetic damage), and reserves the right to expel the Participant without prior notice, responsibility for a refund, or providing accommodation outside of the Temple.

15. If the Participant is found to possess prescription drugs that have not been approved by the Organizer prior to their arrival, street drugs, or alcohol, the Organizer reserves the right to deny them entry to the Temple and/or the workshop or expel them from the workshop without prior notice, responsibility for a refund, or providing accommodation outside of the Temple.
16. The Organizer may require the Participant to take a drug or breathalyzer test prior to or during a workshop, without prior notice or reason. If the Participant refuses to comply with the test, the Organizer reserves the right to deny them entry to the Temple and/or the workshop and/or expel them from the workshop immediately and without prior notice, responsibility for a refund, or providing accommodation outside of the Temple.
17. The Organizer is not liable for the injury of any Participant that may occur during or after the workshop. By participating in a workshop at the Yachaywasi Lodge and accepting this Agreement, the Participant expresses full understanding of and responsibility for the risks that they may encounter during a workshop. The Participant absolves the Yachaywasi Lodge, its owners, and employees of said responsibility. Any legal action taken against the Yachaywasi Lodge will only take place in Peru under Peruvian Law.
18. In the case of a medical emergency during a workshop, such as an intestinal infection, malaria, high fever, broken or damaged bones, snake bite, etc., the Participant will be accompanied by a Yachaywasi Lodge representative to a medical facility in Iquitos for treatment.
19. Should the Participant be forced to lose days from the workshop due to extenuating circumstances, the Organizer will reimburse the attendee at a rate of 50% of the workshop cost, per day, for the number of days lost. This does not apply to medical conditions that arise from preexisting health issues.
20. The Organizer reserves the right to expel any guest without prior notice, responsibility for a refund, or providing accommodation outside of the Temple.
21. The workshop balance must be paid in full at least 6 weeks prior to the start of the workshop to guarantee a reservation. If a deposit is made with a credit card, that card will be charged automatically for the outstanding balance 6 weeks prior to the start of the workshop.

22. If a Participant cancels their workshop booking, payments are only refundable if the Organizer has a minimum of 8 weeks notice prior to the start of the workshop. Any refunds given will occur a USD 100.00 administration fee.
23. If original payment was made with a credit card, any refund will be credited back to the card originally charged. Refunds will be given via PayPal for other forms of payment.
24. The Participant may change their workshop reservation to another date at no cost or transfer their payment(s) to another Participant, provided said Participant is accepted by the Organizer to attend a workshop and that it is a minimum of 8 weeks prior to the start of the workshop.
25. Should the Participant decide to cancel their reservation within 8 weeks of the start of the workshop, payments will only be refunded, credited to a future date, or transferred to a third party if we can fill their place in the workshop. The Organizer will try their best to do so.
26. Should a Participant decide to leave a workshop prematurely, the Organizer is not responsible for the reimbursement of monies or for denouncements by the attendee.
27. The healers at the Yachaywasi Lodge function as spiritual guides and teachers. We offer ceremony for the purpose of spiritual communion. In order to operate workshops at the Yachaywasi Lodge in accordance with Peruvian Law, we require that you also understand and agree to the following:

If you agree to participate in a workshop at the Yachaywasi Lodge, you will be required to complete a medical form and questionnaire. You must answer all questions honestly and to disclose any relevant personal information about your health.

By accepting these Terms and Conditions, you also agree to the following Declaration, wherein "I" refers to "You", the participant in the workshop.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Witness \_\_\_\_\_

## **Peruvian Law concerning the illegal practice of Medicine: Ley N° 28538**

*(Spanish) Art. 290: Será reprimido con pena privativa de libertad no menor de un año ni mayor de cuatro años, el que simulando calidad de médico u otra profesión de las ciencias médicas, que sin tener título profesional, realiza cualquiera de las acciones siguientes:*

- 1. Anuncia, emite diagnósticos, prescribe, administra o aplica cualquier medio supuestamente destinado al cuidado de la salud, aunque obre de modo gratuito.*
- 2. Expide dictámenes o informes destinados a sustentar el diagnóstico, la prescripción o la administración a que se refiere el inciso*

**(English) Art. 290:** Any person simulating a doctor or health care professional without a professional title will be punished with incarceration no less than one year and no more than four years for realizing any of the following actions:

1. Advice, diagnosis, prescription, or administering or applying any means destined as health care, even if it is offered without charge.
2. Offering tests or information designed to support the diagnosis, prescription, or administration in reference to number 1.

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The Yachaywasi Lodge is not a medical facility and no health care is practiced under its direction. Its owners and employees are not health care professionals and do not practice health care of any form. We do not offer:

1. Advice, diagnosis, prescription, or administer or apply any means destined as health care, even if it is offered without charge.

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2. Tests or information designed to support a diagnosis, prescription, or administration in reference to number 1.