



www.SacredSitesJourneys.com

SACRED SITES JOURNEYS

DECEMBER 2008 E-NEWSLETTER

NOTE: Links in this e-newsletter may not be “hot”.
If not, then please copy and paste into your browser.

IN THIS ISSUE:

**Winter Solstice Message from Andrea,
our Sacred Sites Journey Director**

**Our 2009 Sacred Sites Journeys
Egypt, Costa Rica, Peru, England, Ireland & Greece
PLUS: Sedona Vortex Tours
& Knights Templar Journeys**

**Sharings from Sacred Travelers
Peru: Sacsayhuaman**

Featured Links / Announcements

Flyer of 2009 Sacred Sites Journeys



A word from our Founder/Director Andrea Mikana-Pinkham

Winter Solstice Message



The translation of the words **Winter Solstice** literally mean “the sun stands still.” In the Northern Hemisphere from the day of the Summer Solstice on June 21st, the longest day of the year, the sun begins its long journey towards the south, its Light waning each day. Then on December 21st, the shortest day of the year, all of creation exhales as a new **Seed of Light** is born in the dark womb of Midwinter. The wheel of life turns once more as a cycle of new life begins again.

You can **sow your own Seeds of Light for the coming yearly cycle** with a simple ritual that can be done alone or with a group. Take a few moments from your busy life on the 21st and contemplate the events that have occurred in your life during the past year, giving thanks for all you’ve received. As well, you can meditate and focus on what you want to manifest for the coming

year.



Here’s a suggested **Seeds of Light Ritual**:

1. Place an unlit candle in the center of your ritual space. Sit in front of it. Or if you’re doing this in a group, then everyone can sit in a circle around it.
2. If this is a group ritual, then everyone present should have their own candle.
3. Turn out all the lights, so that you can experience the feeling of sitting in utter darkness. Take in the silence and the stillness; let it draw you inward. Imagine what life would be like without the sun. If you’re alone, perhaps you’d like to write about this in your journal. Or if you’re in a group, share your thoughts and feelings.
4. Then consider all the gifts the sun brings you. Again, record this in your journal or share with the others present.
5. Contemplate how the Seed of Light is being born within the womb of darkness on this day as you light the candle in the middle of your altar. If you’re in a group, then each person in turn can light their personal candle from this Sun candle.
6. Then make your wish for three things you want to manifest in the coming year – one wish for yourself, one wish for someone you know and love, and one wish for our planet.
7. Notice how the room is now filled with light and warmth, and finish your celebration with a seasonal song, a circle dance, and of course with some holiday food!
8. When you’re complete, snuff out the candles, with the reminder that the flame continues to

burn brightly within your heart. If it's safe to do so, let the main candle stay lit throughout the night to fully welcome back the Sun!

For more information about Andrea, visit
<http://www.sacredsitesjourneys.com/about.htm>

Our 2009 Sacred Sites Journeys

Listed below by date

**This journey was originally listed as being open
only for those who have been to Egypt.
It's NOW open to everyone!
And is filling, so please reserve your space soon!**

**EGYPT: A Sacred Initiatory Journey
to the Land of Ancient Mysteries
April 1 - 12, 2009**

**with extension to Sharm El Sheikh on the Red Sea
April 12 - 15, 2009**



**Encounter the powerful energies of the sacred sites of Egypt
and receive transformative initiations**

**from the Neters (the Egyptian Gods & Goddesses)
as you engage the ancient energies on a profound level!**



SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER: Shahrzad Aryan,
Lineage Bearer in the Egyptian Wisdom Keeper Tradition

FEATURED SPEAKER: Andrea Mikana-Pinkham,
Director - Sacred Sites Journeys,
Member - Fellowship of Isis
Student of Egyptian Wisdom Keeper Tradition

EGYPTOLOGIST GUIDE: Vivian Zaki, PhD

SPECIAL OFFERINGS!

Mystery school initiations, ceremonies & meditations at sacred sites
facilitated by Shahrzad and Andrea

Commune with **THE SPHINX/TEFNUT** for Initiation into Her Deeper Mysteries

Visit ancient **MEMPHIS**, ancient Khemtian site & capital of the Old Kingdom

Entrance into **MENKAURE'S PYRAMID**
on the Giza Plateau for a sound healing ceremony

Sound Healing Initiations at the **RED PYRAMID & SAKKARA**

Explore the ancient Per-Neter at **ABUSIR**

Encounter and examine the mysterious artifacts
at the ancient "landing site" of **ABU GHUROB**

Visit to the Crypt at **DENDERA** for Initiation into the Greater Mysteries
& to the Mammisi to Connect with the Divine Feminine Energies of Birth & Creativity



At **SEKHMET'S CHAPEL** at **KARNAK** receive Initiation
as a Priest or Priestess of Her healing tradition

Sunset Camel Ride on the **WEST BANK**,
including Dinner at a traditional roof-top restaurant

Enjoy the **SPA FACILITIES** at our luxurious hotel on Elephantine Island in Aswan

Visit downriver from Aswan to a **NUBIAN VILLAGE** on the Nile,
including a stop on the beach for a swim and picnic lunch

Receive an Empowerment Initiation from Khnum on **ELEPHANTINE ISLAND**

Private entrance into the **TEMPLE OF ISIS**
for Initiation into the Divine Feminine Mysteries of Isis

And as always....Private Entrance into the King's Chamber of the **GREAT PYRAMID**
for our Closing Ceremony & Meditation,
which will include an Initiation into the Mysteries of Thoth and Seshat

Participation is open to the first 20 people who register.
This Sacred Sites Journey is already filling quickly!
Book NOW to reserve your space and to avoid disappointment!

For more information about the journey & our special offers, visit
<http://www.sacredsitesjourneys.com/Egypt-April2009/Egypt-April2009.htm>

NEW!!!! COSTA RICA: Goddesses in Paradise
Celebrate the Divine Feminine in YOU!
May 16 - 23, 2009



**Join Sacred Sites Journeys Director
Andrea Mikana-Pinkham on our Women's Retreat in Costa Rica!**

**Celebrate the Sacred Divine Feminine Within YOU
as you relax, renew and rejuvenate your Spirit
at Ama Tierra, a life-enhancing retreat center
nestled on 8 acres in the central Costa Rican mountains.**

The paradise of Mother Nature and YOU are the Sacred Sites

A word from Andrea: "As women, we are all born Goddesses. By undertaking this spiritual retreat to reclaim Her true essence, you will realize more of your Goddess Within. My goal is to support each of you to come to know your Divine Feminine or Goddess Aspect on a more profound level. Through meditations, rituals, ceremonies, divinatory tools, and a group channeling session, we'll tune into the energy, voice, vision of the Goddess Herself, as She relays Her unique and timely messages to you. It's my hope that when you leave our Women's Retreat and return home to your life, you'll see the issues and people in it with a new perspective - one that you will be able to use to engage your life with more of Her qualities of Love, Allowance, Compassion, and Intuition, so that you will deepen your spirituality and serve others in more creative and positive ways."



**Daily sessions to support you to access the Goddess Within
Empower the Goddess Within
Message from the Kumaras - The Divine Feminine Within
Deepen Your Connection with Your Intuition**

SPECIAL INCLUSIONS!

A Day at the Beach!

**Turubari Tropical Eco-Park
which features a guided rainforest tour
and optional canopy zipline - the best one in Costa Rica!**

OTHER OFFERINGS:

An Evening Sound Healing Experience with Crystal Bowls



Optional morning **Yoga Classes**

Optional **Wellness Services:**

Massage, Energy Balancing, Detoxification, Nutritional/Herbal Consultation



Individual **Tarot Readings**

Hike to the stream or the pochote tree forest where you might just see a colorful toucan, an iridescent mot-mot or any one of several species of birds

Horseback riding in the hills with amazing views of the green valleys, the forest and even the Nicoya Peninsula and ocean beyond
or ride to a waterfall or to a secluded thermal water pool (hotsprings)

Visit **Puriscal**, a bustling town with its market and traditional town square

Relax at the **pool** - take a dip, lounge with a good book or write in your journal



Enjoy **3 daily meals** of a healthful combination of home cooking, using fresh organic fruits and vegetables, local fish and chicken

A library of **DVD's** with players in all rooms

**This Women's Retreat is open to the first 15 women to register.
Registrations are coming in!**

We encourage you to reserve your space early!

For more information, visit

<http://www.sacredsitesjourneys.com/CostaRica-May2009/CostaRica-May2009.htm>

PERU: Mystical Journey to Machu Picchu

June 13 - 20, 2009

with extension to Lake Titicaca to Celebrate the Solstice

June 20 - 24, 2009



**From Andrea: "Since 1994 I have led over 26 spiritual pilgrimages to Peru,
and have an excellent network of people to support you to make this
one of the most awesome experiences of your life!"**



**"Our spiritual tour guide will be Dr. Jose (Pepe) Altamirano,
who is my dear spiritual brother and an excellent bilingual guide.
Pepe is a Peruvian Mystic and Ritual Specialist in the Inca Spiritual Tradition,
Former Director of the National Institute of Culture,
Former Executive Director of the National Park of Sacsayhuaman,**

Author of Sacsayhuaman: The Most Powerful Temple of the Andean Culture"

***"I invite you to journey with myself, Pepe
and our smaller group of other spirit-centered travelers
to the majestic and awe-inspiring land of the ancient Incas
on a mystical journey to Machu Picchu!"***

**Experience the magic and mystery
of the rich legacy of traditional Andean rituals
and the esoteric wisdom of the ancient Incas!**

Connect with the energies of the **Three Worlds of the Incan Cosmology
and learn the lessons each of these has to offer and how to use them in your life
to be in balance with your Self, as you further open your heart
...for personal, as well as planetary healing.**

As we journey to enigmatic and mysterious **Machu Picchu,
the City of Light and Crown Jewel of the Andes,
we will explore the ancient Sanctuary and tap into the transformational energies
that are still present in its various temples.**

SPECIAL OFFERING: During our special **Sunrise Ceremony** at Machu Picchu
we will greet *Taytay Inti* (Father Sun)
as He returns to give life for another day to His Children,
just as the ancient Incas did when they inhabited the Sanctuary.
PLUS, you will have plenty of time to explore on your own!

**At the sacred sites in and around charming and picturesque Cusco,
we will cleanse and enliven our chakras by connecting with the
water, earth, fire and air elements
and the ancient **Eternal Flame of Light** that still exists for those that open their hearts to
it!**

At the sacred sites of **Pisac & Ollantaytambo in the **Sacred Valley of the Incas**
we will soar with the Condors and connect with the elements of water and air.**

IMPORTANT:

**You'll have time to relax and integrate the energies
of the various sacred sites you will visit
so that your Sacred Journey will
rejuvenate, restore and heal your body, mind and spirit!**

Read "In the Arms of the Pachamama"

**A Sacred Travel Account of a transformational experience in Peru
by Andrea Mikana-Pinkham**

<http://www.sacredsitesjourneys.com/Peru-June2009/InTheArmsOfThePachamama.pdf>

Participation is open to the first 22 people who register.
This Sacred Sites Journey is already filling quickly!
Book NOW to reserve your space and to avoid disappointment!

For more information about the journey, visit
<http://www.sacredsitesjourneys.com/Peru-June2009/Peru-June2009.htm>

ENGLAND: Mystical Journey to Avalon & Sacred Sites of the Goddess July 19 - 25, 2009



*Join SSJ's Andrea Mikana-Pinkham,
our Spiritual Sister & Tour Guide - Priestess of Avalon Koko Newport,
and our Spiritual Brother - author & Druid Nicholas Mann,
on this transformational spiritual pilgrimage to the Glastonbury area,
home to some of the most powerful sacred sites on Earth!*

In ancient Avalon
you will be able to access the powerful energies and esoteric significance
of the mysterious stone circles and other power spots.

They will come alive for you, as you walk the ancient pathways
and connect with the rich legacy of the Celtic Goddess Tradition.
and participate in meditations, sacred ceremonies and initiations
into the Avalonian Mysteries!

**** At world-famous Stonehenge, Avebury and Silbury Hill,
you will experience the powerfully transformative and palpable energies
that have endured here for centuries...
ready and waiting to assist you in your spiritual evolution.**

**** In ancient Avalon, at Glastonbury Tor and the Chalice Well,
you will transcend the veil of time and place
and connect with the lingering energies from the past.**

**** Our journey is during the high season for crop circles.**

We'll explore the strange and puzzling mystery of these intricate symbols that seem to appear out of nowhere in the local fields.

(Admission to fields is subject to permission of the owner, at the time of our request.)

**** Our home base will be magical and peaceful [Glastonbury](#). You'll have plenty of free time to explore its secrets!**

SPECIAL OFFERINGS!

1) Private entrance inside the circle at Stonehenge for Sacred Ceremony and Meditation!

2) Private Entrance into the Chalice Well for Initiation Ceremony with Priestess of Avalon as Brothers and Sisters of Avalon



3) Visit to Glastonbury Tor and the Chalice Well with author and Druid Nicholas Mann



Participation is open to the first 22 people who register.

This Sacred Sites Journey is already filling quickly!

Book NOW to reserve your space and to avoid disappointment!

For more information, visit

<http://www.sacredsitesjourneys.com/England-July2009/England-July2009.htm>



IRELAND: Sacred Sites of the Emerald Isle
September 19 - 27, 2009



Join SSJ's Andrea Mikana-Pinkham
and our smaller group of other spirit-centered seekers
to travel in sacredness to connect with the ancient sacred sites of Ireland.

Experience the powerful energies at stone circles, holy wells,
passage tombs and other sacred sites in the magical areas of the
wildly beautiful countryside of the Emerald Isle!

SPECIAL OFFERINGS!

Participate in meditations & rituals to connect with the powerful energies
of the sacred sites and Celtic Gods and Goddesses



Our Tour Guide in the Killarney area will be Patricia Gogsch.
Patricia is loved and appreciated by our groups for her friendly, caring, knowledgeable
and professional services. As a Killarney native, she is able to offer us a very unique
experience in County Kerry and the surrounding areas.



You'll encounter and engage the transformational energies at...

- ** The UNESCO World Heritage site of **Newgrange**, one of the oldest sacred sites on the planet!
- ** The **Hill of Tara**, the Mother Womb of Ireland, with the **Stone of Destiny** that roared when the rightful High King was crowned
- ** 5,000 year old Bronze Age **Druid Stone Circle** at Kenmare, the largest in southwest Ireland
- ** **Grange Stone Circle** dedicated to Aine, Celtic Goddess of love, growth, cattle, and also associated with Light and the Sun
 - ** **Holy Well** at Ballyvourney dedicated to the Divine Feminine and Her powers of healing
 - ** **Holy Well** at Newcastle West dedicated to Bridget, Ireland's beloved Mother Goddess
- ** **Sheela-Na-Gig**, ancient symbol of the freedom & creativity of the Divine Feminine
- ** **Killarney National Park**: Innisfallen Island, with it's ancient Celtic Cross where you can leave offerings for good luck; Ross Castle, built in the 15th century by O'Donaghue chieftains; and Torc Waterfall, with its magical energies of the elementals, devas, or Faery Folk
- ** **Ring of Kerry**, a winding scenic route in southwestern Ireland, which many people claim has the best in scenery and magic that Ireland has to offer!
- ** **Skellig Michael**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site from the 7th century that today retains a deep and abiding spiritual peace

Plus, you'll have time to explore on your own in Killarney and Dublin!

Participation is open to the first 20 people who register.
This Sacred Sites Journey is already filling quickly!
Book NOW to reserve your space and to avoid disappointment!

For more information, visit
www.sacredsitesjourneys.com/Ireland-Sept2009/Ireland-Sept2009.htm

GREECE: Sacred Odyssey, including the Greek Islands
October 11 - 22, 2009



To Be Posted Soon!

EGYPT: Sacred Journey of Initiation
November 7 - 22, 2009



To Be Posted Soon!

SEDONA VORTEX TOURS
with author Mark Amaru Pinkham



Dates available by appointment

**Enjoy the world-famous Red Rock country of SEDONA,
one of the most sacred and powerful places on earth!**

**Experience Spiritual Adventure, Healing, Relaxation, and Rejuvenation
with author and spiritual teacher Mark Amaru Pinkham,
a Sedona resident who is in tune with these powerful energies
and will help you to connect with them!**

**For more information
and to book your Sedona Red Rock Vortex Adventure, visit
<http://www.sacredsitesjourneys.com/SedonaVortexTours/SedonaVortexTours.htm>**

**KNIGHTS TEMPLAR JOURNEYS and SEMINARS
with Mark Amaru Pinkham**



Mark is the North American Grand Prior of
The International Order of Gnostic Templars.



He will be traveling throughout the US, Canada and Europe in 2009
offering seminars about Gnosticism, Alchemy
and the Teachings of the Divine Feminine as part of
The Ancient Academy of Noble Gnostic Knights
and
Gnostic Knight Templar Training Seminars: Level 1

For more information, visit <http://www.gnostictemplars.org/workshops.html>
Or Contact Mark at info@GnosticTemplars.org or 928 284-1429

Mark and Andrea will be offering a Sacred Sites Journey to Scotland
in 2010 to visit Templar-related sites, such as Rosslyn Chapel,
located a few miles south of Edinburgh.
Information to be posted on our website as the journey is finalized.

**YouTube.com Videos with Mark Amaru Pinkham
Now Available for Viewing!**

Secrets of the Knights Templar - Part 1
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0qPMCwt_RG8

SHARINGS FROM SACRED TRAVELERS



Click on the link below
to read Daryl's account of his spiritual pilgrimage to Peru,
"Sacsayhuaman"

<http://www.SacredSitesJourneys.com/Peru-June2009/Peru-Sacsayhuaman-DarylCapps.pdf>

FEATURED LINKS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

WESTERN and/or VEDIC ASTROLOGY READING

Gift yourself or someone in your life this Holiday Season
with an insightful reading that will be supportive to you
in the coming year and beyond!

With astrologer, author and spiritual teacher
Mark Amaru Pinkham

<http://www.gnostictemplars.org/astrology.html>

Emerald Energies

The Leading Circulator of Metaphysical & Spiritual Electronic Media

<http://www.emerald-energies.com/>

Website of Judy Nelson, Artist Extraordinaire

<http://www.judysartadventures.com>

If you would like a flyer of our 2009 Sacred Sites Journeys
click on the link below

<http://www.sacredsitesjourneys.com/SacredSitesJourneysTours2009-Color.pdf>

NOT ON OUR EMAIL LIST? WANT TO RECEIVE OUR E-NEWSLETTER EACH MONTH?

If you are receiving this email as a forward from a friend,
and would like to receive your own copy of our monthly
Sacred Sites Journeys Travel E-Newsletter, please sign up at
<http://www.sacredsitesjourneys.com/signup.htm>

We'll email you a Sacred Sites Journeys
Travel Discount Coupon that you can use to save \$
if you decide to travel with us in the future!

IMPORTANT!

We will not sell or share your information

*with any other company or any individuals.
And, you can easily un-subscribe at any time.*

Parting Words for this month's issue from Andrea:

Starting in January 2009, I'll be offering a monthly one hour free teleconference call. During our time together I'll share some of the various ways people who have traveled with me in the past have manifested their spiritual journeys. Hopefully some of them will join us and tell you their story in person! As well, we'll discuss your doubts and fears and work to turn them into the Attitude of Gratitude to bring your sacred travel dreams into reality. Details will be posted on our website soon, so bookmark our site and check back with us! <http://www.SacredSitesJourneys.com>

I hope to have the honor to travel with you in 2009 on one (or more!) of our Sacred Sites Journeys. Please contact me if you have any questions or need more information about any of our upcoming spiritual pilgrimages. I'm here to support you to deepen your spirituality through sacred travel.

Peace and Blessings to you!
Andrea

Sacred Sites Journeys
Andrea Mikana-Pinkham, Founder/Director
P. O. Box 20548; Sedona AZ 86341
www.SacredSitesJourneys.com
info@SacredSitesJourneys.com
Toll Free in the US: 888 501-3853
928 284-2384 or 928 814-0773

Please forward this email to anyone who you think might be interested in receiving our information. Thanks!

Copyright Sacred Sites Journeys - 2008