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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Explore Machu Picchu and Iguazu Falls with Friendly Planet's Latest Tour

Travelers can discover two iconic South American landmarks in Peru, Brazil and Argentina, with a Buenos Aires optional extension, starting at just \$2,899

JENKINTOWN, Pa.—June 28, 2012—Impressive architecture, spectacular archeological sites, vast culture, and amazing natural wonders are what define two of the most visited and awe-inspiring landmarks in South America—Machu Picchu in Peru and Iguazu Falls which spans Argentina and Brazil. Now, travelers have the chance to explore these two destinations and more on a nine-day Sensational South America tour from Friendly Planet Travel, a leading tour operator that offers high-quality, affordable vacation packages to exotic destinations worldwide.

"We are excited to announce our latest tour, Sensational South America," says <u>Peggy</u>

<u>Goldman</u>, President of Friendly Planet Travel. "This luxurious tour combines two of the most desired landmarks in South America—Machu Picchu and Iguazu Falls—into one affordable, efficient tour. And that's not easy because of the landmarks' distance away from one another on opposite sides of the continent. Travelers will enjoy plenty of touring and upgraded hotels on this trip of a lifetime."

Friendly Planet Travel's Sensational South America tour includes round-trip airfare from Miami via LAN Airlines, including fuel surcharges, airlines taxes, and fees; all intra-South America transportation and transfers, including the Vistadome train to Machu Picchu; and deluxe first-class hotel accommodations. The tour also includes a full daily breakfast and two dinners; comprehensive touring programs, including entrance fees; and a professional, English-speaking tour guide.

The journey begins in <u>Lima</u>, Peru's diverse capital city, with a city tour. See the historical city center as well as the <u>Monastery of San Francisco</u>, famous for its library and catacombs.

From there, visit the fashionable districts of <u>San Isidro</u> and <u>Miraflores</u>, known for their beautiful parks and elegant residences along the ocean. While enjoying the modern and colonial city of Lima, travelers stay in the <u>Casa Andina Private Collection Hotel</u>.

Depart Lima for a short flight to <u>Cusco</u>, the capital of the Inca Empire. Upon arrival, travel to nearby Pisac, a picturesque <u>Andean village</u> with a wonderful market that has locally handcrafted clothing and ceramics. Then, continue to <u>Ollantaytambo</u>, located at the foot of Incan ruins in an area known as the <u>Sacred Valley</u>. While exploring the area, travelers stay at the <u>Aranwa Sacred Valley Hotel</u>.

The tour then visits Machu Picchu, one of the most spectacular and enigmatic archeological sites in the world. By far the most recognized symbol of the Incan Empire, this complex structure consists of giant walls, terraces, and ramps constructed from precisely cut rock formations. Enjoy the visually stunning architectural feat and natural setting amidst green mountains above the rushing Urubamba River.

Next, journey back to Cusco for a panoramic tour of the city's impressive sites. Visit the Plaza de Armas, center of the Incan Empire, where Francisco Pizarro proclaimed the conquest of Cusco. Also tour the beautiful 16<sup>th</sup> century cathedral, built on the ruins of the Koricancha, an important Incan temple to the Sun God. While visiting Cusco, travelers stay at the Aranwa Cusco Hotel.

Travelers then continue their South American exploration in Foz do Iguassu, Brazil. While discovering Iguazu Falls, a UNESCO World Heritage Site considered to be one of the greatest natural wonders of the world, stay at the Bourbon Iguassu Resort. Enjoy a close-up view of the falls and their dazzling display of power. Then, cross over into Argentina and travel through the rainforest to the most spectacular sight at Iguazu, Devil's Throat. Journey back to the Brazilian sides of the falls, and enjoy exploring the sub-tropical rainforest into the canyon on the falls for another incredible close-up view.

For travelers looking to take advantage of the already included international airfare, an optional <u>three-day extension to Buenos Aires</u>, known as the "Paris of the South," is available starting at \$750. Travelers will stay at the <u>Sheraton Liberator Hotel</u> and enjoy a tour of the city. Visit <u>Plaza del Mayo</u>, the historic and political center of the city; see the Casa Rosada, the Presidential Palace; and the <u>Obelisk landmark on the Avenue 9 de Julio</u>, the widest avenue in the

world. Also enjoy Florida Street, a shopper's paradise; and pass through several colorful neighborhoods, including La Boca, San Telmo and Recoleta.

Friendly Planet's nine-day Sensational South America tour is available for \$2,899 on the departure dates of Oct. 28, Nov. 11, Dec. 2, Jan. 13, Feb. 10 and March 10, if booked by Aug. 8. Friendly Planet Travel also offers two additional tours that visit Machu Picchu, the 10-day Amazing Peru tour and 17-day Peru, Ecuador and Galapagos Islands tour. Additionally, the 11-day Best of South America tour and 9-day Spectacular Rio and Iguazu Falls tour both visit Iguazu Falls.

For more information about Friendly Planet Travel, please visit the company's website at <a href="www.FriendlyPlanet.com">www.FriendlyPlanet.com</a>; the blog at <a href="blog.FriendlyPlanet.com">blog.FriendlyPlanet.com</a>; or contact Jackie Zima-Evans at 610-228-2138 (office), 215-534-2973 (mobile), or write to <a href="Jackie@GregoryFCA.com">Jackie@GregoryFCA.com</a>.

## ABOUT FRIENDLY PLANET TRAVEL

Friendly Planet Travel makes high-quality exotic travel affordable for everyone. Since 1981, Friendly Planet Travel has been arranging all-inclusive escorted discount vacation packages and cruises to the most exciting destinations in the world at the lowest possible prices.

Each year, Friendly Planet Travel offers more than 30 different group travel packages to Asia, the Middle East, Africa, Europe, and South America—at discounts of hundreds of dollars off similar vacations. With no hidden charges, add-ons, or surprises, Friendly Planet Travel vacations include convenient flights and airfare; carefully selected, first-class and superior hotels; knowledgeable, English-speaking guides; many meals; planned itineraries; as well as friendships and memories that last a lifetime.

Friendly Planet Travel offers its extensive, economical travel services to private groups, including universities, religious institutions, alumni associations, and families. Groups who wish to travel together can count on Friendly Planet Travel's three decades of experience to operate their group travel program expertly and always at the very best possible prices. Visit it at <a href="https://www.FriendlyPlanetTravel.com">www.FriendlyPlanetTravel.com</a>. You can also follow Friendly Planet Travel on <a href="mailto:Twitter">Twitter</a> and <a href="mailto:Facebook">Facebook</a>.