



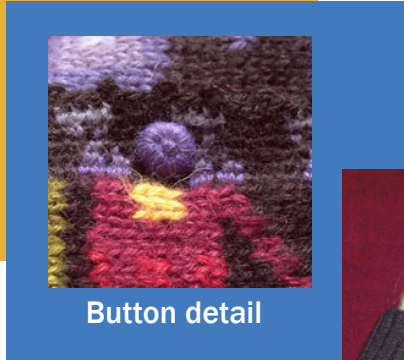
Cochiraya

ALPACA GARMENTS

Warm luxurious handmade garments from
the artisans of Cochiraya - Puno, Peru



Cardigan Style



Button detail

Lovely hand-knitted garments with fine finishes: color coordinated handmade buttons, crocheted plackets and hems.

Made with care from 100% pure alpaca

Reversible Hat and Mittens



Sweaters, Hats, Mittens, etc.

Cochiraya lies at 1500 meters above sea level close to the shores of Lake Titicaca. This makes agriculture very difficult. The community is poor and young people move to the cities looking for opportunity. To reverse this cycle of decline, the **women have taken action**. They are developing alternative means to earn a living, mainly by designing and producing beautiful alpaca clothing. If they are successful, there will be job opportunities and a reason for their young people to stay.



Alpacas are native to the area surrounding Lake Titicaca (dividing Peru and Bolivia). Two groups of indigenous people, the **Quechuas and Aymaras**, are credited with first domesticating these animals and spinning their fiber into clothing.



Cochiraya – Puno is a women's cooperative making distinctive alpaca knitwear. The cooperative is made up of sixty indigenous women from two smaller workgroups **EL TUMI and IRPA**. They are looking for an opportunity to market their knitwear. For more information visit <http://www.geocities.com/cochiraya>



Contact: Daria Ccalla Huayllara
Urbanizacion "El Mirador"
C-16 Alto Puno
PUNO - PERU
Phone: 051- 337626
Email: cochiraya@yahoo.com