

ANNEX

Highlights of Orchids of Machu Picchu



***Brassidium Urchinesque* 'Spider tail'**

This hybrid comes from comes from the genetics of the species *Brassia arcuigera*, a species with a flower form that is tailored for a simple pollination strategy involving the female spider-hunter wasp. The flowers of this hybrid have a star-shaped appearance due to the narrow petals and sepals. These petals and sepals are yellow-green with brown spots, while the lip is proportionately large and showy.



Epidendrum cylindrostachys

This epiphytic orchid has beautiful miniature yellow and purple-spotted flowers that look beautiful but smell like a beast!



Epidendrum orbiculatum

Originating from Machu Picchu, Peru, this species thrives in moist, high-altitude forests, preferring elevations between 2,800m and 3,150m. As a cold-growing epiphyte, it is relatively small. The "orbicularis" in its name comes from the Latin word for "circular", which refers to the round shape of the flower's lip, which is notably larger than the rest of the bloom.



Masdevallia veitchiana

Also known as the “Waqanki” orchid – translated to “you will cry” in the Quechuan language – this is a vibrant orange and fuchsia-hued bloom with drooping sepals. Named for the tears an Inca princess shed for her warrior beloved who left to fight in a war, it is also called the “King of the Masdevallias”.



Phragmipedium caudatum

This lady slipper orchid has unusually long petals that can grow up to 30cm in length. *Phragmipediums* are native to the tropical Americas and highly sought-after, particularly for their striking flowers that range from pink to purple. Regrettably, they are classified as critically endangered.



Porroglossum peruvianum

This cool-growing epiphyte is endemic to Peru and found in the cloud forests of the Amazonas department, growing at elevations of 1,500 to 2,000m. As with most *Porroglossum* species, the flowers that function as traps are surprisingly fast-acting, with their sensitive lip closing in seconds when touched. This mousetrap-like mechanism snaps shut to trap its pollinator – flies. The helpless pollinator can only wriggle out between the lip and petals to escape, and in this process, the pollinia is attached onto the insect’s back. Once triggered, the lip will reset in 30 minutes, and closes naturally at night to prevent access to non-pollinating nocturnal insects.



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Restrepia lansbergii

Restrepia lansbergii is a species native to Peru, Venezuela and Ecuador. In the wild, it inhabits lower montane cloud forest at elevations from 700m to 3,000m as a miniature-sized, cool-to-cold growing epiphyte. Despite being small with a tufted growth habit, this species can be quite showy when it produces many single flowered inflorescences.