Peruvian Harvested Alpaca Sweaters are Stylish

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This lovely animal that is blessed with fur that is warm and comfortable to the touch. It creates lovely Peruvian alpaca sweaters. It is from Peru, a country in South America and is known as the "Gold of the Andes". The fur is strong and soft and is a good addition to one's wardrobe. Usually these types of garments with this type of fiber last quite a while. It is worth the investment as the garments last forever.

Silk is the strongest fiber while alpaca is the second strongest. It is very good in cold weather. Garments such as scarves, sweaters, and shawls are made on a daily basis for people who want to lavish in this type of fiber. The Peruvians respect this animal like no other and have a close bond with the animal. They treat the animal very well as if it is part of them.

The Incas treated alpaca fur as if it was very special. Only royalty during that time were allowed to wear it. It showed classism and created a separation from the people who were not royalty. This was the culture back in that time. Now, anyone can wear this wool if they can afford it and appreciate the animal's beauty.

The fibers are hollow inside making it a lightweight product, yet one that still provides the warmth of a heavier material. The material is finer than cashmere and softer than cotton, but still very strong and durable. Many products made with alpaca wool are dyed brilliant colors.

Alpacas are cousins to the more familiar animal, the llama. They are native to many portions of the Andes mountains in South America. They are gregarious herd animals that browse at high elevations. They are reasonably docile and are now raised as livestock for wool in many parts of the world. The wool can be harvested safely, although it requires some skill and experience.

These animals need to be sheared regularly. The process usually requires at least two people, one to hold the animal and another to do the shearing. The most popular time to do the shearing is during the spring season. At this time, the coat is still thick and it can be cut before the summer arrives. Some animals are resistant to being shaved so they need to be restrained carefully.

Not too long ago, other countries besides Peru have shown an interest in importing them and starting an industry for selling their wool and for breeding them. China, Australia, and the United States are examples. It is a growing industry.

During the Industrial Revolution, alpaca fibers were made more accessible to people to buy. England in the nineteenth century made this possible. A lot of money was spent to buy this fiber and still is. This industry is not going away any time soon. It is quite popular among the people who knit and love sweaters.

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