



TREK

CHOQUEQUIRAO + MACHU PICCHU

9 days / 8 nights

Salkantay
TREKKING
Trek & Expeditions Specialists



DESCRIPTION

The Most Epic Inca Trek in Existence

You've all heard of Machu Picchu, but what about Choquequirao? It's just as spectacular but far less visited. Discover the two great architectural wonders of the Incas on a 9-day trek that'll challenge your physical and mental limits to renew yourself completely. If you're addicted to physical activity, you love nature, and you're passionate about the history of ancient civilizations, this route is perfect for you.

Due to the archaeological importance of Choquequirao and Machu Picchu—the largest and most well-preserved Inca sites that exist in all of South America—and the impressive natural beauty of this part of the world, this route was chosen in 2015 by National Geographic as one of the most beautiful in the entire world. The difficulty of this excursion is comparable to the trek to Mount Everest base camp, so it's not for the faint-hearted. But, if you're up for the challenge, we recommend it as the most epic trek in Peru.

CONTENT



Map



Itinerary



Inclusions



Packing List



DAY 01: Cusco | Capuliyoc - Chiquisca - Playa Rosalinas - Santa Rosa

DAY 02: Santa Rosa | Marampata - Choquequirao - Marampata

DAY 03: Marampata | Archaeological complex of Choquequirao - Pinchaunuyoc

DAY 04: Pinchaunuyoc | Rio Blanco - Maizal

DAY 05: Maizal | Abra San Juan - Yanama

DAY 06: Yanama | Yanama Pass - Collpapampa (Mountain Sky View)

DAY 07: Collpapampa | La Playa - Lucmabamba (Jungle Domes)

DAY 08: Lucmabamba | Llastapata - Hidroeléctrica - Aguas Calientes

DAY 09: Aguas Calientes | Machu Picchu - Ollantaytambo - Cusco

- DISTANCE / HOURS**
- CAMPS**
- LUNCH & REST AREA**
- PASS POINT**
- RIVER**
- FOOTPATH**
- MAJOR ROAD**
- MINOR ROAD**
- RAIL ROAD**

FULL ITINERARY

HIGHLIGHTS

- » Explore the two most significant Inca archaeological sites in existence: Machu Picchu and Choquequirao.
- » Hike along ancient paths built by the Incas and stop off at other small archaeological complexes.
- » Travel through different climates and varying scenery along the route and enjoy the biodiversity of Peru.
- » Enjoy the peace and quiet along the trek to Choquequirao and explore the site in tranquility before joining more tourists on the route to Machu Picchu, one of the New Seven Wonders of the World.
- » Get to know the Apurimac Canyon, which is the deepest in the American continent and located next to Choquequirao.

DAY 01

Cusco | Capuliyoc – Chiquisca – Playa Rosalinas – Santa Rosa

Take in the Spectacular Scenery and Refreshing Andean Air

Our 9-day epic adventure begins very early in the morning today. We'll pick you up at your hotel at 4:30 am and travel for 5 hours in our private vehicle to Capuliyoc (2,890 m / 9,482 ft). Here, we'll enjoy a nutritious and delicious breakfast to give you the energy you need to get started on your long trek. We'll also meet the rest of the team, which includes a horseman and our chef, who'll accompany us the entire way.

After defining some final details, we'll begin our hike, which starts with 3 hours downhill to the lunch point in Chiquisca (1,900 m / 6,234 ft), a beautiful town full of fruit fields. Along the way, we'll be able to observe



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the impressive landscape of the Apurímac Valley, and two other gigantic glacier mountains called Padreyoc and Qoriwayrachina.

We'll continue the descent for another hour until we get to the bottom of the valley where you'll find the fast-moving Apurímac river (1,500 m / 4,911 ft), whose name in Quechua means "Speaking God." The fast-flowing waters are ideal for canoeing thanks to the class V rapids.

Finally, we'll make a 2-hour ascent until we reach our Santa Rosa camp (1,970 m / 6,463 ft), where a delicious dinner and an incredible night of rest await you.



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DAY FACTS

- » MEALS:
Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner.
- » ACCOMMODATION:
Camp
- » DIFFICULTY:
Moderate
- » WALKING DISTANCE:
15 km / 9.32 mi
- » HIGHEST ELEVATION:
2,890 m / 9,482 ft
- » CAMP ELEVATION:
1,970 m / 6,463 ft

1. Walk through impressive landscapes in the Apurímac River canyon.
2. Padreyoc Snowcapped Mountain
3. The hike to Choquequirao is demanding but rewarding.
4. Chiquisca Campsite
5. The vegetation along the route is unique.
6. You will enjoy a spectacular sunset upon arrival.

DAY 02

Santa Rosa | Marampata - Choquequirao -
Marampata

Soak Up the Beautiful Nature and Witness an Amazing Sunset

After a nutritious breakfast, we will resume our hike, ascending through a zigzag path for 3 hours until we reach Marampata (2,900 m / 9,514 ft). From this point, we can capture incredible canyon views and surrounding snow-capped peaks. After a well-deserved rest, we will leave some of our belongings here. After enjoying lunch, we will continue for another hour and a half toward the impressive archaeological complex of Choquequirao (3,050 m / 10,007 ft).

Once there you will have plenty of time to enjoy your new beautiful surroundings, you will feel the



energy that this place has stored for 5 centuries, take advantage and stretch your tired muscles while we briefly visit some places of Choquequirao, the last place of refuge of the Incas.

After exploring, you will enjoy a beautiful sunset that will flood the endless valleys and white glacial mountains with its warm orange glow. When it starts to get dark, we will return to the Marampata camp (2,900 m / 9,514 ft) and enjoy a nice dinner. You will go to bed happy after such a wonderful day.



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DAY FACTS

- » MEALS:
Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner.
- » ACCOMMODATION:
Camp
- » DIFFICULTY:
Challenging
- » WALKING DISTANCE:
10 km / 6.21 mi
- » HIGHEST ELEVATION:
3,050 m / 10,007 ft
- » CAMP ELEVATION:
2,900 m / 9,514 ft

1. Travel through the ancient Inca trails still used by the local indigenous people.
2. The ascent to Choquequirao will test your adventurous spirit.
3. Enchanting waterfalls will beautify your hike.
4. Bridge over the Mighty Apurimac River.
5. Spectacular panoramic views of the Apurimac Canyon.
6. Feel the magic and energy of the Andes.

DAY 03

Choquequirao Archaeological Complex -
Pinchaunuyoc

Explore the Incredible Choquequirao As Much As You Like

After another nutritious breakfast, we will take the day to explore in great detail this incredible Inca site of Choquequirao (3,050 m / 10,007 ft) which is located in the giant Andean mountains and very close to the deepest canyon in the entire American continent. Surely you can already imagine the incredible landscapes that surround this colossal Inca construction.

We'll stop off at the most impressive parts of this incredible place and your guide will tell you all they know. Much larger than Machu Picchu, Choquequirao is an excellent example of Inca squares, storage centers, temples, and impressive platforms. There's no doubt you'll constantly wonder; how were the Incas able to build this on top of the mountains?

While at Choquequirao, don't miss the famous white stone flames that adorn the platforms that are practically built on the hillside and located in the direction of the mountain that protects that



sector, the Apu Qoriwayrachina. In many ways, Choquequirao remains a mystery to this day and experts are constantly studying the site. According to many experts, for now, only about 40% is visible. This means there's still a lot to uncover and learn about this grand place.

In the afternoon, after enjoying a picnic lunch, we will begin our ascent into the cloud forest, a truly unique and fascinating area for many hikers because it feels like you are walking among the clouds.

We will reach the Choquequirao Pass (3,270 m / 10,728 ft) to descend to the archaeological site of Pinchaunuyoc (2,420 m / 7,940 ft) that will amaze you with its agricultural platforms suspended over the abysses of the Rio Blanco canyon. We will take advantage of the immense terraces to set up our camp and spend the night.



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DAY FACTS

- » MEALS:
Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner
- » ACCOMMODATION:
Camp
- » DIFFICULTY:
Moderate
- » WALKING DISTANCE:
8 km / 4.97 mi
- » HIGHEST ELEVATION:
3,270 m / 10,728 ft
- » CAMP ELEVATION:
2,420 m / 7,940 ft

1. Monumental archaeological complex of Choquequirao
2. Beginning of the final stretch
3. Detail of the magnificent Inca architecture
4. Spaces frozen in time in Choquequirao
5. Llama figures on the terraces of Choquequirao
6. The windows of Inca buildings are very characteristic.

DAY 04

Pinchaunuyoc | Rio Blanco – Maizal

Watch the Breathtaking Sunrise Behind Choquequirao

Today we recommend waking up before the sun comes up to appreciate the magnificent sunrise against the archaeological complex and surrounding scenery. See how the rays of Father Sun or Tayta Inti fill all the corners with color and life. Connect with this powerful star and feel his warmth. Take the opportunity to thank the sacred mountains that surround you and the powerful Apurimac River. In this way, we'll be saying the perfect goodbye to Choquequirao.

After breakfast, we continue our descent to the Blanco River (1,900 m / 6,234 ft) and hike through a lush cloud forest. This is a truly unique and fascinating area for many hikers because it feels like a dream to be among the clouds.

Once at the bottom of the valley, you will be able to appreciate the great variety of bird species, different



orchids, and plantations of the sacred coca leaf, which has been an important plant since the Inca empire. Many of our travelers take this opportunity to take a dip in the cold and crystalline waters of the river to refresh themselves, it will be a pleasure to take a bath after three days of trekking!

After relaxing for a while, we will continue our trek. A zigzagging and steep road of approximately three hours will lead us to our next campsite, located in another small hamlet, known as Maizal (3,000 m / 9,843 ft). This place has impressive views of the snow-capped mountains that give rise to three beautiful valleys.

We'll enjoy a comforting lunch and then take the rest of the day to rest. We will spend the night in this beautiful place.



DAY FACTS

- » MEALS:
Breakfast, lunch, and dinner.
- » ACCOMMODATION:
Camp
- » DIFFICULTY:
Moderate
- » WALKING DISTANCE:
8 km / 4.97 mi
- » HIGHEST ELEVATION:
3,000 m / 9,843 ft
- » CAMP ELEVATION:
3,000 m / 9,843 ft

1. Magnificent stone terraces in Maizal.
2. An example of Inca architecture.
3. Incredible constructions in the mountains.
4. The terraces are still cultivated by local farmers.
5. Deep canyons carved by rivers over millions of years.
6. Mighty rivers of the Andes.

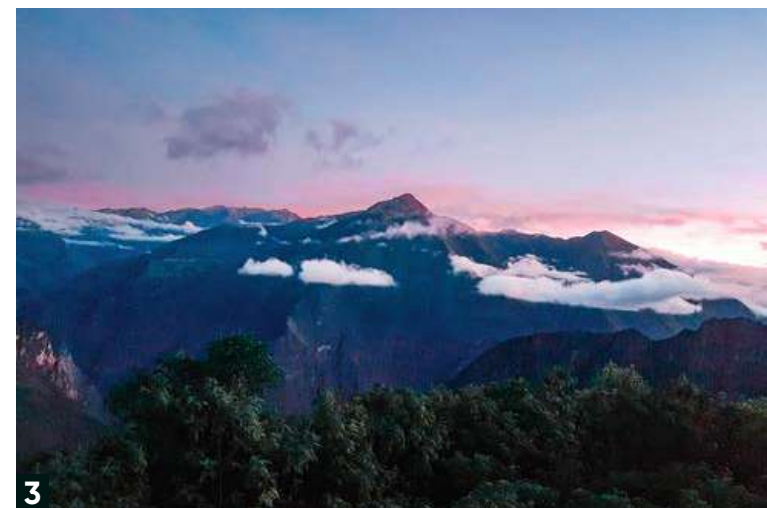
DAY 05

Maizal | Minas Victoria – San Juan Pass – Yanama

Ascend Into the High Andes and Enjoy a Change of Scenery

Today you'll wake up with the wonderful, chirpy song of the birds that'll greet the sun and help you wake up ready to face the day. After recharging your energy with a delicious breakfast, we'll head along an uphill path covered by lush vegetation. Soon, the snowy mountains will surround us once again reminding us of their sheer power and natural beauty. If the sky isn't clear, you'll see how the clouds cover the valley below us. No matter what the weather is like, it's bound to impress you.

There's a five-hour ascent ahead. This sector of the route is of great historical importance because several archaeological sites are scattered along the way for you to see. You'll be able to observe some ancient Inca silver mines called Minas Victoria as well, and then you'll ascend to the San Juan Pass (4,200 m / 13,780 ft). It'll be a long climb, but the beauty of the route is so immense that you won't even notice the effort.



We'll walk through the Amazonian cloud forest and then we'll begin to enter the Andean Puna that's known for its grasslands. Near the top, we'll start to see cobbled sectors on the path that are original constructions of the Incas. We'll have lunch observing the stunning glacial mountains of Choquetakapo and Padreyoc. If we're lucky, and the weather allows it, it's very likely that you'll get a glimpse of the flight of the condor whose wings reach 3 meters in length when spread, the largest of all flying birds on Earth.

Finally, we will make our descent to the Yanama camp (3,600 m / 11,811 ft), which is a small town located at the bottom of a huge valley. As with every other day, you can expect to end the day with a tasty dinner and a pleasant night's sleep surrounded by nature.



DAY FACTS

- » MEALS:
Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner.
- » ACCOMMODATION:
Camp
- » DIFFICULTY:
Moderate
- » WALKING DISTANCE:
10 km / 6.21 mi
- » HIGHEST ELEVATION:
4,200 m / 13,780 ft
- » CAMP ELEVATION:
3,600 m / 11,811 ft

1. Ancient abandoned silver mines.
2. The exuberance of the foothills of the Amazon.
3. Fantastic sunsets amidst the Andes.
4. Impressive view of the snow-capped mountains.
5. Dazzling rock formation over the valley.
6. The fog completes a magical and mysterious landscape.

DAY 06

Yanama | Yanama Pass – Totorá –
Collpapampa (Mountain Sky View)

Enjoy the Natural Beauty and Varying Climates

The people of Yanama preserve the ancestral traditions of the Andes to this day, and it's a great place to immerse yourself in the local culture. Take the opportunity to make new friends and perhaps give some things to the children who'll come to greet you. You'll wake up to the relaxing sound of a waterfall and the hidden noises of the jungle.

After breakfast, we'll begin a 5-hour ascent to the highest point of the entire trek, known as the Yanama Pass (4,650 m / 15,256 ft). On our walk, we'll observe the people from the area lovingly working the land in the potato fields. Along the way, the snowy mountain ranges of Saqsarayoc and Padreyoc will appear with their gigantic bodies of snow. Depending on the

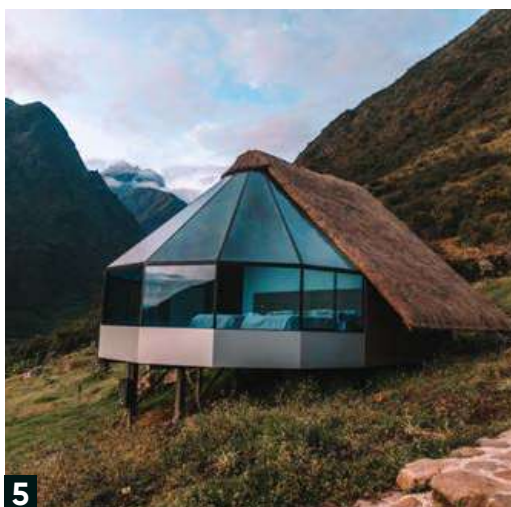


season, we may be able to walk on the snow at this point of the trek. You'll also get to see, for the first time, the imposing sacred mountain of Salkantay, one of the main deities of the region.

Later, we'll descend through a long and mysterious fog-filled path towards the community of Totora. Along the way, we'll have a break for lunch and rest to regather our energy. Then, we'll continue for one more hour until we reach the camp for the night in Collpapampa. After dinner, enjoy a restful night amid the tranquillity of nature.

Our campsite Mountain Sky View is a warm mountain accommodation and our novelty this year, and it's with great pleasure that we prepared this place for all those looking for a glamping experience surrounded by nature. Each one of its individual Andean Sky Huts counts with a private bath besides spectacular tropical mountain views. You'll find peace under the shining stars listening to the voices of wildlife and the whispers of the river in the valley.

- » 16 Sky huts
- » 2 people per hut
- » Dining room and kitchen
- » Toilets and Warm Shower
- » **Optional:**
 - Warm shower



DAY FACTS

- » MEALS:
Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner
- » ACCOMMODATION:
Camp
- » DIFFICULTY:
Moderate
- » WALKING DISTANCE:
15 km / 9.32 mi
- » HIGHEST ELEVATION:
4,650 m / 15,256 ft
- » CAMP ELEVATION:
3,360 m / 11,024 ft

1. Appreciate the valley from the incredible trail carved in the rock.
2. Yanama Pass
3. Snowfalls are common in the area and cover the stunning landscapes in white.
4. Mountain Sky View Domes.
5. Amazing views from the Sky View Domes.
6. Interior of the domes.

DAY 07

Collpapampa | Playa Sahuayaco -
Lucmabamba (Jungle Domes)

Descend Through the Fascinating Cloud Forest

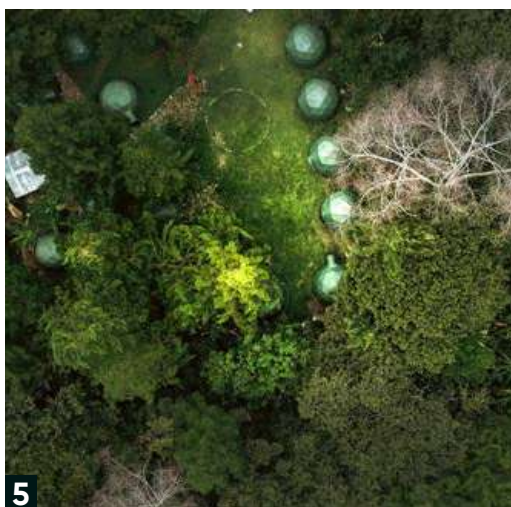
After yet another outstanding breakfast to begin the day, we'll descend through a humid forest where you'll begin to see trekkers who are walking the Salkantay route to Machu Picchu. At this point, we'll be able to observe beautiful rivers, impressive waterfalls, wild orchids, coffee, banana, and avocado plantations. The place is so fertile that it's full of fruit everywhere you look. Try the delicious flavor of passion fruit and granadilla.

We'll have lunch at approximately noon at La Playa and then walk for around 30 minutes to our camp in Lucmabamba (2,000 m / 6,562 ft). Once we get there, we can explore the tropical jungle a little and visit a plantation where they grow coffee. If you're a



coffee-lover, this place will be heaven for you. You'll feel the pleasant aroma and powerful flavor of one of the best coffees in all of Peru that's exported to the United States, Asia, and Europe.

Since you'll have plenty of free time this afternoon, we recommend you visit the relaxing thermo-medicinal waters of Cocalmayo (price not included) that are close to our camp. It's the best way to recover after so many days of walking! In the evening, you'll be delighted with a tasty dinner and a lovely night's rest as you listen to the sounds of the jungle to help you drift off.



DAY FACTS

- » MEALS:
Breakfast, lunch, and dinner.
- » ACCOMMODATION:
Jungle Domes Campsite
- » DIFFICULTY:
Moderate
- » WALKING DISTANCE:
17 km / 10.56 mi
- » HIGHEST ELEVATION:
2,800 m / 9,186 ft
- » CAMP ELEVATION:
2,000 m / 6,562 ft

From the comfort of our domes, you get to be in intimate contact with the surrounding nature. As you hear the voices of the wind, rain, and flora and fauna in the area, immerse yourself in this green environment.

- » 16 domes
- » 2 people per dome
- » Dining room and kitchen
- » Toilets and cold shower
- » Opcionales:
 - Warm shower
 - Wi-Fi

1. Hike through the lush Amazon rainforest
2. Collpapampa River
3. Traditional coffee elaboration
4. Jungle Domes
5. Jungle Domes
6. Jungle Domes inner

DAY 08

Lucmabamba | Llactapata – Hidroelectrica –
Aguas Calientes

Make Your Way to Pretty Little Aguas Calientes

The last day of trekking is here. We'll walk for 3 hours uphill on a section of the original Inca Trail. From there, you'll see the incredible Santa Teresa valley landscape and some coffee and passion fruit plantations. Once we reach the top of that mountain we're walking on, we'll be at the fabulous Inca site of Llactapata from where you can enjoy your first glimpse of the Lost City of the Incas, Machu Picchu. You'll explore the site and your guide will tell you all about the history of the place.

Then, we'll descend for an hour and a half to our lunch spot in Aobamba. After we've replenished our energy with a delicious meal, we'll continue to Hidroelectrica, from there we'll follow the rail route



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for three more hours to the town of Aguas Calientes (2,040 m / 6,562 ft). If you're very tired at this point, you can also pay a little extra to board the train the rest of the way.

Once you reach the small town, you'll stay in a comfortable hotel. You'll have some free time this afternoon and have the option of visiting the thermo-medicinal waters that exist in the place (price not included) or wandering around the town to explore a little. Then, we'll meet for dinner in a nice restaurant before a night of well-deserved rest awaits you. You'll need to head to bed early because, the next morning, we'll go to the fantastic archaeological complex of Machu Picchu before dawn.



We offer a selection of well-located hotels in the town with very comfortable and tasteful decorated rooms. You'll find them impeccable with clean rooms and beds as well as adequate toilets and showers. It's a perfect place to rest before the most important day of your trip!

- » Single, Double, Matrimonial, and Triple
- » Dining room and kitchen
- » Toilets and warm showers
- » Wi-Fi

DAY FACTS

- » MEALS:
Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner.
- » ACCOMMODATION:
Hotel
- » DIFFICULTY:
Challenging
- » WALKING DISTANCE:
25 km / 15.53 mi
- » HIGHEST ELEVATION:
2,800 m / 9,186 ft
- » ACCOMMODATION ELEVATION:
2,040 m / 6,693 ft

1. First view of the Imposing Machu Picchu from the Llactapata viewpoint
2. Archaeological site of Llactapata
3. Bridge over the Amazon forest in Aobamba.
4. Aguas Calientes
5. Hotel in Aguas Calientes
6. Comfortable rooms

DÍA 09

Aguas Calientes | Machu Picchu –
Ollantaytambo – Cusco

Discover the Energy at Machu Picchu

Today this incredible adventure comes to an end, and we're sure that you'll feel like a completely different person. As we've done every day, we'll start very early to take advantage of the amazing early morning light. You'll enjoy breakfast at the hotel and then choose between 2 options: Go by bus for 25 minutes to Machu Picchu or walk to the sacred city on a mysterious and pretty route in the company of your guide. Remember to notify your guide the night before if you decide to walk so they know not to wait for you at the bus stop.

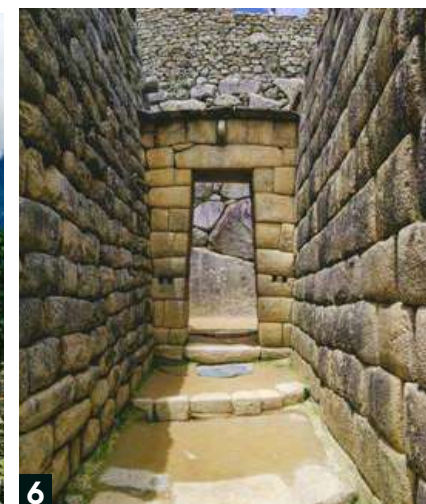
Once you arrive at this impressive site, you'll take a guided tour of approximately two hours through some of the most important sites. Machu Picchu is a true architectural and engineering marvel. Discover how the huge rustic stones become magnificent buildings that are always in careful harmony with nature. You'll feel powerful energy that will transform your spirit after this intense hike. Remember that Machu Picchu is an extremely sacred place, it was when it was built and remains so to this day.



If you've booked extra tickets to Huayna Picchu or Machu Picchu Mountain, you'll have the opportunity to stay an additional amount of time to do the hike and experience an outstanding panoramic view of the entire Machu Picchu.

Later, you'll take your bus back to Aguas Calientes, where you can choose one of the restaurants for lunch (price not included). You'll pick up your luggage from the hotel and go to the station where you will board your train. After a magical journey along the banks of the Urubamba River, you'll arrive in Ollantaytambo, where our private transportation will be waiting to take you back to the door of your accommodation in Cusco.

It's now time to get some very well-deserved rest after nine long days of hiking, exploring, and learning all about ancient cultures. There's one thing for sure: You'll never forget this once-in-a-lifetime journey through the Andes and ancient lands.



DAY FACTS

» MEALS:

Breakfast

» DIFFICULTY:

Easy

» MACHU PICCHU CITADEL

ELEVATION:

2,430 m / 7,972 ft

» MACHU PICCHU MOUNTAIN

ELEVATION:

3,000 m / 9,843 ft

» HUAYNA PICCHU ELEVATION:

2,792 m / 9,160 ft

» OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Moderate (2-4 hours)

1. Machu Picchu, Inca wonder
2. Impressive Inca architecture at Machu Picchu complex
3. Temple of the condor
4. Terraces in Machu Picchu
5. Temple of the Sun
6. Detail of the Inca architecture

INCLUSIONS



WHAT IS INCLUDED?

» Permits & Entrance Tickets

- Entrance Ticket for Choquequirao Trek
- Entry to Machu Picchu Archaeological Site (Circuit 2)

» High Quality Service & Safety

- Pre-departure Briefing

You'll meet your trekking guide and group in our office for an orientation before your trek. There, we'll provide you with the duffle bags, which our horses will carry. The meeting will be at 5:00 pm the evening before the trip begins.

- Experienced Tour Guide

English and spanish speaking official tour guide. All our guides are graduates of the professional career of Tourism of the National University San Antonio Abad of Cusco. We choose them for their professionalism, experience, responsibility, seriousness, unbridled passion for exploring, and sincere desire to proudly share in our culture and history. He or she will keep you safe, sound, and comfortable on your trek so that you can enjoy your time worry-free!

- Private Camping Equipment

You'll have spacious dining and kitchen tents where you can enjoy your food without problems. All our equipment like tables, chairs, cooking equipment, etc., will be carried by our horses.

- Portable Travel Toilet

- Inflatable mattress

Our camping mattresses will help you sleep comfortably whilst camping!

- One Duffle Bag

On the trek, you can carry your personal belongings up to a maximum weight of 7 kg / 15.4 lb (this weight includes your sleeping bag).

- Medical Kit or First AID Kit

All Salkantay Trekking guides have received specialized training in first aid. We hold mandatory training sessions with our guides every February. Your guide will always carry a first aid kit to face basic emergencies (altitude sickness, travelers' diarrhea, cuts, scrapes, etc.) as well as oxygen. If necessary, we'll evacuate you from the path as quickly as possible and ensure that you arrive at a clinic for treatment.

- Extras Included in our Service

We believe that attention to small details is what sets us apart from other local companies. You'll receive a cover to protect your backpack on the road and a rain poncho.

- 24/7 Customer Service

We have telephone service available 24 hours/day for ease of communication with Salkantay Trekking leading up to your trek.

- Satellite Phone

Our main priority will always be the tranquillity of our clients. All of our guides are prepared for emergencies in the mountains; however, being a phone call away from any doctor, hospital, or friend helps you feel more secure. For this reason, each Salkantay Trekking guide has a satellite phone that can be used anywhere on the mountain to call anywhere in the world in case of an emergency.

» Accommodation

- Accommodation in Private Campsites

Like our ancestors, we're very considerate of the Pachamama (Mother Earth). For this reason, our campsites and lodges are adapted to the environment to avoid generating negative impacts.



Mountain Sky View



Jungle Domes

- Hotel in Aguas Calientes

Day 8: The last night of this trek is spent in a 2-star hotel in Aguas Calientes with a matrimonial, double or triple room, private bathroom, hot shower, wifi, breakfast, and luggage storage while you visit Machu Picchu.

- 6 Nights Accommodation in Tents

Salkantay Trekking uses the best equipment to ensure your safety and comfort.

Every 2 people will share Eureka Timberline or Mountain Hard Wear tents with a capacity for 4 people.

» Meals

- 9 Breakfasts, 8 Lunches, and 8 Dinners

Our chef prepares the best dishes in the middle of the mountain. Our passengers love our food! We respect all diets (vegetarian, vegan, or special menus are available at no extra cost), so let us know if you have any particular allergies or restrictions on your reservation form and remind your guide during the briefing. You'll enjoy breakfast, lunch, and dinner, in addition to hot drinks and snacks.

- Water on the trail

We'll provide you boiled, filtered, and cooled water during your trek. For this, you need to bring a camel bag or an empty bottle (we recommend a capacity of 2 liters).

- Wake up tea

Every morning at the campsite, you'll be woken up with a cup of hot coca tea. Our staff will provide you the tea in your tent so that you will be warm from inside out before you start your day.

- Tea Time or Happy Hour

Every afternoon before dinner, the cooks will provide you popcorn, biscuits/cookies, coffee, hot chocolate, teas, hot water, etc. After a long day of hiking, you won't have to wait until dinner to relax, warm-up, and enjoy a bite to eat!

- Snacks on the trail daily

Before starting your trekking, your tour guide will provide you a cloth bag with local fruits, cookies, chocolate, caramels, etc. Every morning, we'll refill it so that you can enjoy your snacks during the walk.

- One cloth snack bag per person

To avoid the usage of plastic bags that contaminate our environment, we'll give you a cloth bag for your snacks.

- Hygiene Products

You'll be provided with a small towel and soap before each meal to clean your hands.

» Transportation

- Transport

- Day 1: You'll be picked up from your hotel in the morning and will travel in our private transportation to Capuliyoc, the trek's starting point.



- Day 9: Private transport from Ollantaytambo train station to your hotel in Cusco.

- Train Ticket from Aguas Calientes to Ollantaytambo (Day 9)
PeruRail Expedition Service

- One-Way Consettur Bus Ticket from Aguas Calientes to Machu Picchu (Day 9)

- Cargo Mules

Cargo mules will carry all the camping equipment and your baggage allowance (7 kg / 15.4 lb). Our muleteers will be responsible for your duffle bag and personal items, and they'll hand them to you when you get to each camp.

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED?

» Extras and important equipment

All our travelers need a sleeping bag to camp. Walking sticks (with rubber tips) are optional but highly recommended. If you do not have them, don't worry, you can rent them with Salkantay Trekking.

- **Sleeping bag:** US\$ 45.00
- **Walking poles (pair):** US\$ 45.00

» Huayna Picchu Mountain

You can climb the famous mountain you always see in the photos behind the archaeological site of Machu Picchu. It's 45 minutes uphill, and coming back down can be scary if you fear heights. You can take this excursion once your guided tour to Machu Picchu ends. The permit must be issued at least one month in advance due to high demand. Consider that there could be changes to protect your integrity, mainly due to weather conditions.

- **The ticket for Huayna Picchu Mountain has an extra cost of US\$ 60.00 per person.**

» Machu Picchu Mountain

Machu Picchu Mountain is another of the mountains that surround the archaeological site of Machu Picchu. It offers less steep, wider, and visually less frightening trails than Huayna Picchu, and it takes 1.5 hours to reach the top. This walk requires an entrance ticket which we can secure for you if we have time in advance.

- **The ticket for Machu Picchu Mountain has an extra cost of US\$ 60.00 per person.**

» Lunch in Aguas Calientes and Dinner in Cusco (Day 9)

» Entrance Ticket to Machu Picchu Hot Springs – Aguas Calientes (Optional)

» Hiking Clothes & Gear



» Travel Insurance

» Tips for our staff

Tipping is the norm on any excursion to Machu Picchu. Although we pay good salaries to our entire team, something extra is always welcome, especially considering the hard work they do. Typically, group participants collect their tips to hand out to the horsemen and chefs together.

» Additional costs or delays beyond our control

Landslides, bad weather conditions, itinerary modifications due to a safety concern, illness, pandemic, government policy changes, political instability, strikes, act of God, etc.

BEFORE YOU GO

We want to make your trip to Peru as memorable and as carefree as possible. In this section, you'll find the answers to all the questions you have about traveling with Salkantay Trekking in one place. Please read the following information carefully – it will help you with any questions about our services.

Have another question that we haven't answered here? Drop us a line and we will get back to you asap!

» How many days do I need to acclimate in Cusco before the Trek?

It's very important to be well acclimated to the altitude before exerting yourself on a trek. We recommend that you arrive in Cusco at least 2 or 3 days before the trek starts to help you adjust and avoid possible problems with altitude sickness while on the trek.

You might have already been in another area of Peru at a high altitude before arriving in Cusco. In that case, we still recommend you have a whole day in Cusco to rest, recover from your travel, and enjoy the sights and sounds of Cusco before departing for the trek.

Here some suggestions for activities to do in the Cusco vicinity before starting your adventure trek:



City Tour



Sacred Valley



Maras Moray

» Briefing or Informative Meeting

All information meetings and briefings are held in our main office in Cusco (or your hotel) at 5:00 pm, one night before the tour begins. These meetings last approximately 30 to 45 minutes. If you're unable to attend, you must coordinate another time by email, by phone or at the Salkantay Trekking office.

» Trek Balance Payment (in Cusco)

If you still have a pending balance, you must pay it 2 days before your hike/tour.

Otherwise, your trip reservation will not be confirmed.

If possible, it would be greatly appreciated if you could settle the remaining balance for the trek/tour in cash, either in US dollars or the local currency, at our office in Cusco. You can withdraw funds from various ATMs located along Avenida Sol, offering both US dollars and Peruvian Soles. Alternatively, you have the option to pay using a credit/debit card or PAYPAL, either online or in person, but please note that a 5% service charge will be applied by our payment gateway (Niubiz) and PAYPAL. We regret to inform you that we are unable to accept bank checks or traveler's checks as forms of payment for the balance.

» Duffel Bag or Canvas Case

You'll receive a canvas case or duffel bag during your briefing. Our horses will carry them, and the horsemen will hand them to you when you get to each camp. They measure 60 x 24 x 22 cm (23.6 x 9.45 x 8.66 in).

A maximum of 7 kg / 15.4 lb is allowed for each duffel bag, including the weight of your sleeping bag, sleeping mat, clothes, and other personal items.

» Can I store my luggage at your office?

Of course! During the trip, your main luggage can be stored at our office (you can organize it with us on the briefing day or by email) or at your hotel, both free of charge.

Any equipment that you won't need on the trek can be stored safely in your hotel. Nearly every hotel will provide this service. Don't leave items of value with your bags; put them in the hotel safe and obtain an itemized receipt (in the unlikely case of theft, many insurance companies require that you have a copy of the receipt itemizing everything). It's best to put items such as credit cards inside a sealed, signed envelope for extra peace of mind.

» Pick up of guests

Salkantay Trekking can pick you up from your hotel, as long as it's in the Historical Center of Cusco. Your guide will coordinate the pickup time in the briefing session, but please keep in mind that the time may vary between 30 and 45 minutes due to traffic.

Cusco is an old city, meaning it has many narrow cobbled streets. Some hotels and Airbnbs may be located on streets without access to cars or on long, steep slopes, making it difficult to transport luggage. We strongly recommend that you book accommodation with good access.

» Return to Cusco

Returning from Machu Picchu requires quite a bit of logistics, but don't worry. Everything is included in your tour!

- In Machu Picchu, you'll board a bus that'll take you for 25 minutes to the small city of Aguas Calientes. The buses are boarded according to arrival.
- In Aguas Calientes, you'll board a train to Ollantaytambo. Your guide will give you the train tickets where the boarding time will be shown. Make sure you're on the platform 30 minutes early. The train from Aguas Calientes to Ollantaytambo takes 1:45 hours.
- Once you arrive at the station, our representative, identified with the Salkantay Trekking clothing, will be waiting to transfer you to Cusco or directly to your hotel. The trip from Ollantaytambo to Cusco takes 1:30 hours.
- In Cusco, depending on your hotel's location, we'll take you to a smaller car from our company (Hyundai H1) to transfer you faster to your hotel.

Note: Your tour includes a One-Way Consettur Bus Ticket Aguas Calientes – Machu Picchu, so you can choose to use it from Aguas Calientes to Machu Picchu or from Machu Picchu to Aguas Calientes. If you want a round-trip bus ticket, you'll need to pay an extra of US\$ 12.00.

» Group Tours

Group tours are made up of different types of people, then physical conditions and ages can vary. By agreeing to be part of a group tour, you also accept that some people may be faster or slower than you. Therefore, each person can go at their own pace on the route.

It may be the case that a group wishes to modify the tour; however, the guide will be the one who decides, after consulting with all the participants, if such modifications are possible.

» Strikes and demonstrations

Strikes and demonstrations are common in Peru, and this may interrupt some of our tours. Roads can be blocked, and train tracks can be taken over. However, we will try to keep your trip as originally planned, even if it means leaving the night before the scheduled date.

Under these circumstances, tours may also be canceled. In case of changes or cancellations, everything will be coordinated with you by our operations department. Your safety is our highest priority, and our decisions will be made to protect it.



» Lost objects

Please pay attention to where you leave your things and remember to take everything once you leave our transport, tents or restaurants. You're the only one responsible for your objects during the tour.

WHAT SHOULD YOU BRING?

- » Valid Passport
- » Extra money (recommended soles)
- » Personal medication
- » Water bottle or CamelBak – (optional water purifying pills)
- » Sunblock: factor 70 or more
- » Insect repellent
- » Personal Care Products
- » Hiking boots or shoes (preferably waterproof)
- » Light footwear or sandals
- » Trekking pants (*)
- » Trekking socks
- » Pair of thermal pants
- » Shorts
- » Waterproof gaiter
- » Long sleeve t-shirts
- » Warm jacket
- » Waterproof jacket
- » Raincoat or rain poncho.
- » Waterproof or wool gloves
- » Sun hat to protect neck and face
- » Wool hat for the cold
- » Neck gaiter or buff
- » Sunglasses with UV protection
- » Sleeping bag (-15°C)
- » Trekking poles
- » Medium trekking backpack (15 - 25 liter)
- » Camera and charger
- » Power bank
- » Snacks: Energy bars, chocolate, candies, dried fruits, etc.
- » Bathing suit
- » Towel
- » Flashlight



*It is advisable to wear waterproof pants during the rainy season (September to March).



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Monday to Saturday - 9:00 am to 7:00 pm