



DESCRIPTION

Experience the trek of a lifetime to Machu Picchu!

The world-famous Inca Trail to Machu Picchu is one of the best trekking routes in South America. Walk in the footsteps of our Inca nobility ancestors to their incredible Inca fortress, Machu Picchu, and dare to discover their secrets.

The Inca Trail is where those most daring choose to trek to Machu Picchu, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Visit unique archaeological sites that can only be accessed on foot along this route and become enveloped in the stunning Andean mountain landscape and thick vegetation. You'll be challenged along the way but will receive the most amazing reward when you enter through the Sun Gate to look over mystical Machu Picchu for the first time.

CONTENT









Packing List



FULL ITINERARY

HIGHLIGHTS

- » Enjoy one of South America's most popular attractions and one of the world's most famous treks.
- » Walk the Inca Trail's ancient path and visit incredible archaeological sites that'll take you back in time.
- » Witness the sheer beauty of the Andes with its towering mountains and luscious, rolling green hills.
- » Discover the secrets of the Incas along the way and imagine how they lived back then.
- » Spend 3 nights in the protective arms of Mother Nature in our comfortable campsites.
- » Enter Machu Picchu through the Sun Gate (Inti Punku), a unique experience only for hikers on the Inca Trail.
- » Explore the astounding Inca citadel, Machu Picchu.

Cusco | Piscacucho (KM 82) - Canabamba -Llactapata - Huayllabamba - Ayapata

Take Your First Steps on Ancient Paths

Today, you're off on the trek of a lifetime, and you'll need to be up early so your guide and driver can pick you up from your accommodation in Cusco between 4:30 and 5:00 am. If you're in Urubamba, you'll be collected between 5:30 and 6:00 am, and if you're in Ollantaytambo, it'll be between 6:30 and 7:00 am.

From Cusco, you'll head for one hour and a half a Ollantaytambo, where we'll enjoy a scrumptious breakfast. Then, we'll head Piscacucho - KM 82, the starting point of the hike. Here, we'll meet the whole trekking team, consisting of cooks and porters. They'll accompany you for the entire exciting adventure, along with your guide, to ensure you have the most fantastic time and take home some unforgettable memories from the sacred mountains.

Important: Remember, you'll need your original passport here to pass the control point and enter the trail, so don't forget it!

The first couple hours of walking are relatively easy to help ease you into the tougher parts. We'll stop in front of a small Inca site called Canabamba. Here, you'll learn about the water canals and







appreciate the spectacular glacier La Veronica. Then, we'll head to Wilkarakay and see the magical archaeological site of Llactapata, whose stone walls peek out amid the lush vegetation on the other side of the Urubamba River. We'll continue for another 20 minutes to our lunch spot in Tarayoc. You'll be amazed at the delicacies we've prepared for you in the middle of the mountains!

This afternoon, you'll keep hiking for another three and a half hours to our first campsite at Ayapata (3,300 m / 10,827 ft). Don't worry if you forgot to pack some batteries for your camera or didn't stock up on snacks and drinks; in this last section, we'll pass by 2 small communities where you can buy any lastminute supplies.

We'll get to our campsite around 5:00 pm. Here, you can rest your tired legs, relax, sip on a hot drink, and nibble on some snacks while you reflect on your first day's hike. You'll eat dinner around 7:30 pm and then head to bed for a good night's rest before trekking again tomorrow.







DAY FACTS

- » MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner
- » ACCOMMODATION: Camp
- » DIFFICULTY: Moderate
- » WALKING DISTANCE: 14 km / 8.7 mi
- » WALKING TIME: 6 to 7 hours
- » STARTING ELEVATION: 2,700 m / 8,858 ft
- » MINIMUM ELEVATION: 2,620 m / 8,596 ft
- » HIGHEST ELEVATION: 3,300 m / 10,827 ft
- » CAMPSITE ELEVATION: 3,300 m / 10,827 ft

- 1. View of Llactapata
- 2. Beginning of the Inca Trail (Km 82)
- 3. Vilcanota River
- 4. Inca Trail
- 5. Beautiful landscapes in the middle of the forest
- 6. Veronica snow-capped mountain

START

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INCLUSIONS

PACKING LIST

Ayapata | Dead Woman's Pass - Pacaymayu - Runkurakay Pass - Sayaqmarka - Chaquiqocha

Enjoy Incredible Views of the Expansive Andean Mountain Range

You're in for another early start when we wake you up in your tents with a hot cup of coca tea. Coca has been consumed since the age of the Incas and is a great way to start the day and get rid of any altitude tiredness you might have. There's a challenging day ahead and the most exhausting on the route. Make sure you enjoy all that's on offer at breakfast to fill yourself with energy.

We'll start hiking uphill for 4 hours to the highest point on the trek, the Dead Woman's Pass (4,215 m / 13,829 ft). From here, you'll get the most amazing views of the immense mountains, so open up all your senses and soak it all in. You'll feel the spirit of the ancient lncas who walked these paths hundreds of years ago and were at one with nature. We'll then descend for one and a half hours to the other side of the valley, to Pacaymayu, where we'll find our lunch spot. Remember, at every mealtime, you can fill up your water bottles.

After a tasty lunch, we'll ascend for around 45 minutes to the Inca site of Runkurakay. We'll take our time and explore this little complex, where you can observe two impressive waterfalls on the mountain slopes. Then, we'll continue uphill for another 45 minutes to the summit at Runkurakay Pass. You'll rest here and







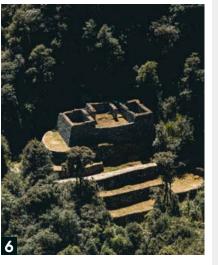
enjoy the last beautiful views of the Andes section of the trek. This is an excellent spot to perform a small ceremony for Mother Earth and the mountains by leaving an offering.

Once we start walking again, we'll go downhill for about an hour until we reach the next archaeological site of Sayaqmarka. It's almost inaccessible but is well worth the visit. You'll learn all about the site's secrets from your knowledgeable guide as the sun descends and lights up the Vilcabamba mountain range with a red hue.

From there, you only have 25 more minutes to walk to our campsite for the night in Chaquiqocha (3,600 m / 11,811 ft). After another fantastic meal, take the opportunity to observe the clear Andean sky and stars and learn about the constellations of the Incas. The sky at night in the mountains is truly a fantastic sight to behold.







DAY FACTS

- » MEALS:
 Breakfast, Lunch, and
 Dinner
- » ACCOMMODATION: Camp
- » DIFFICULTY:
 Challenging
- » WALKING DISTANCE:
 16 km / 9.94 mi
- » WALKING TIME:
 8 to 9 hours
- » STARTING ELEVATION: 3,300 m / 10,827 ft
- » MINIMUM ELEVATION: 3,300 m / 10,827 ft
- » HIGHEST ELEVATION:
 4,215 m / 13,829 ft
- » CAMPSITE ELEVATION: 3,600 m / 11,811 ft

START

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ITINERARY

INCLUSIONS

PACKING LIST

^{1.} Runcurakay

^{2.} Inca Trail

^{3.} Runcurakay Pass

^{4.} Sayacmarca Archaeological Site

^{5.} Archaeological Site of Chaquicocha

Chaquiqocha | Phuyupatamarka -Intipata - Wiñay Wayna

Feel the Magic of the Incas as You Visit Ancient Sites

Well done, you have overcome the most challenging day! Today a beautiful reward awaits you.

After a good night's rest, you'll wake up at 6:30 am giving you a bit of a lie-in. You'll fill up on a hearty breakfast and then walk for an hour and a half. Embrace the greenery and fantastic landscape as the jungle begins to thicken. You'll enjoy a stunning juxtaposition of the Salkantay glacier on one side and the jungle on the other. Allow yourself to be amazed at the panoramic view of the Vilcabamba mountain range.

You'll then ascend toward the final summit of the route in Phuyupatamarka (3,650 m / 11,975 ft), a mystical place above the clouds. Then, you'll descend again for two and a half hours until we reach Intipata. This is a significant agricultural place from which you can take in the impressive panoramic lookout over the Sacred Valley of the Incas, with the Urubamba River running through the middle like a serpent.







START MAP

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INCLUSIONS

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Next is only another 30 more minutes of walking to our campsite, close to the Wiñay Wayna archaeological site. You're now very close to the city of the Incas! You'll arrive early enough to enjoy a well-deserved lunch before visiting the site. The name of the complex, Wiñay Wayna, means "forever young" and is considered one of the most impressive stops on the whole route.

You'll explore the site for about an hour as your guide conjures images to bring it all to life. This makes it easy for you to imagine what life was like hundreds of years ago and what the site would have looked like, full of life.

Back at camp, you'll be spoiled with a small celebration with all your trekking team of guides, porters, and cooks. Take time to think about all they've done for you along the route. These guys work extremely hard to make you feel comfortable and relaxed daily. This is also the perfect opportunity to thank them with a tip as a sign of appreciation. You'll also say goodbye to your porters here.

Afterward, it's time to get to bed early to rest well, as you'll be up at dawn the next day. Relax and contemplate all the amazing efforts you've made until now. Tomorrow you'll visit one of the Seven Wonders of the World. We always like to arrive as early as possible so you can see the sunlight up the site as it rises, a magical spectacle sure to captivate your heart.







DAY FACTS

- » MEALS:
 Breakfast, Lunch, and
 Dinner
- » ACCOMMODATION: Camp
- » DIFFICULTY:

 Moderate
- » WALKING DISTANCE:
 9 km / 5.6 mi
- » WALKING TIME:
 4 to 5 hours
- » STARTING ELEVATION:
 3,600 m / 11,811 ft
- » MINIMUM ELEVATION: 2,650 m / 8,694 ft
- » HIGHEST ELEVATION:
 3,650 m / 11,975 ft
- » CAMPSITE ELEVATION:
 2,650 m / 8,694 ft

START

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ITINERARY

INCLUSIONS

SIONS PACKING LIST

Phuyupatamarca Archaeological
 Site

^{2.} Inca Trail

^{3.} Archaeological Site of Phuyupatamarca

^{4.} Archaeological Site of Wiñaywayna

Wiñay Wayna - Sun Gate - Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu - Aguas Calientes - Cusco

Visit the Magical Inca Citadel of Machu Picchu

All your efforts over the last few days will be rewarded with the most amazing prize today. You'll need to wake up today at 3:30 a.m. to ensure you get to the Sun Gate early to watch the sunrise. At 4:00 a.m., we'll provide you with water and a boxed breakfast, and you'll be on your way. We'll be one of the first groups to cross the control point and walk an hour or so to the Sun Gate. Prepare yourself because once we're there, you'll get your first views of the incredible Inca architecture and engineering marvel.

Congratulations, you finally made it to Machu Picchu! Surrender to the sacred site that patiently awaited your arrival and will change something inside you. We will have a two-hour guided tour of the most remarkable points while your guide explains the fascinating history of the Incas and their mysteries.





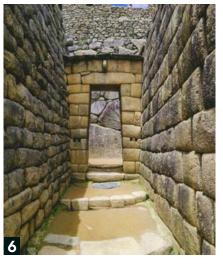


As you wander around this creation, you'll feel the intimate connection between humans and nature. You'll see immense stones connecting harmoniously to form temples, alleys, houses, and aqueducts that still work over 5 centuries later. Machu Picchu was built in an inaccessible location to resist any attack and remind modern men that we can fully exist only in true communion with Mother Earth, Pachamama.

After the tour, you can climb Huayna Picchu or Huchuy Picchu Mountain with pre-booked tickets. Then, you'll take the bus back down to Aguas Calientes for lunch in a restaurant of your choice and then board the train to Ollantaytambo. Tickets are usually booked for 14:55 hours, depending on availability, and you need to be at the station at least 30 minutes before departure. Once you're at your final train stop, our transport will be waiting for you to take you back to your accommodation in Cusco.







DAY FACTS

- » MEALS: **Breakfast**
- » DIFFICULTY: Moderate
- » WALKING DISTANCE TO MACHU PICCHU: 5 km / 3.1 mi
- » WALKING TIME TO MACHU PICCHU:
- 2 to 3 hours
- » STARTING ELEVATION: 2,650 m / 8,694 ft
- » HIGHEST ELEVATION (SUN GATE): 2,720 m / 8,924 ft
- » MACHU PICCHU INCA TOWN ELEVATION: 2,430 m / 7,972 ft
- » AGUAS CALIENTES ELEVATION: 2,040 m / 6,693 ft

START

MAP

ITINERARY

INCLUSIONS

PACKING LIST

^{1.} Machu Picchu

^{2.} Sun Gate or Intipunku

^{3.} View of Machu Picchu from the Sun

^{4.} Terraces of Machu Picchu

^{5.} Inca architecture in Machu Picchu



WHAT IS INCLUDED?

» Permits & Entrance Tickets

Permits and Ticket for the Inca Trail

We will secure all necessary permits once we receive your complete information and reservation deposit. Permits are subject to availability and are issued for a specific date and under your name. They cannot be changed under any circumstances. Changes in passport number are only permitted for renewal reasons. In that case, you must provide both your old and new passports.

• Entry Ticket to Machu Picchu Archaeological Site (Circuit 3)

» High Quality Service & Safety

Pre-departure Briefing

You'll have an orientation meeting with your guide the evening before the tour. The meeting is at 5:00 p.m. in our office and, depending on the itinerary, in your hotel.

Experienced Tour Guide

Our official tour guides speak English and Spanish and are professionally trained and certified. We choose them for their experience, responsibility, unbridled passion for exploring, and pride in sharing our culture and history. In every experience, they will keep you safe and comfortable so you can enjoy your time worry-free!

- Private Camping Equipment
- Tents: Spacious dining tents to enjoy your meals worry-free.
- Tables, chairs, and cooking equipment
- Portable Travel Toilet
- Sleeping Pad

All equipment will be carried by our team of porters.

· One Duffle Bag

For the trek, you'll receive a duffle bag to pack 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 specialized first aid training and attend

mandatory training sessions every February. Your guide will always carry a first aid kit and oxygen to handle basic emergencies (altitude sickness, diarrhea, cuts, scrapes, etc.). If needed, we will evacuate you from the trail as quickly as possible and ensure 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 trail, 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 tour.

Satellite Phone

Your tranquility is our first priority. Although our guides are prepared for emergencies in the mountains, calling a doctor, hospital, or a friend can make you feel more secure. For that reason, each Salkantay Trekking guide carries a satellite phone to call any location worldwide and from anywhere on the mountain.

» Accommodation

3 Nights Accommodation in Tents

Salkantay Trekking uses the best camping tents to ensure your safety and comfort (e.g., Eureka Timberline or Mountain Hard Wear tents).

» Meals

• 4 Breakfasts, 3 Lunches, and 3 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 boiled, filtered, and cooled water during your hike. For this, you need to

bring a camel bag or an empty bottle, which you can refill during each meal (we recommend a capacity of 2 liters).

· Wake up tea

You'll wake up every morning at the camp with a cup of hot coca tea! It'll be brought to your tent so you can warm up before you start the day.

Tea Time or Happy Hour

Every afternoon before dinner, the cooks will provide you with popcorn, cookies, coffee, hot chocolate, tea, 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!

Daily snacks on the trail

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

We'll provide you with a cloth bag for your snacks—perfect for storing wrappers and keeping the environment clean. Feel free to use it throughout your trek!

Hygiene Products

We'll provide you with a small towel and soap to clean your hands before each meal.

» Transportation

- Transport
- Day 1: You'll be picked up from your hotel in the morning and travel in our transportation to Piscacucho (KM 82), the starting point of the trek.
- Day 4: Bus Ticket from Machu Picchu to Aguas Calientes
- Day 4: Transport from Ollantaytambo train station to your hotel in Cusco.
- Train Ticket from Aguas Calientes to Ollantaytambo (Day 4)

PeruRail Expedition Service

Porters Team (Inca Trail)

Our Porters Team will carry all camping equipment and supplies needed for the trek. Additionally, we'll include the personal service of a porter responsible for carrying your duffle bag and personal items.

START MAP ITINERARY INCLUSIONS PACKING LIST

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED?

» Sleeping Bag

You can rent one from our company if you don't have your own. Our sleeping bags are effective and durable to protect you from temperatures as low as -18°C (0°F). They are mummy-form and include a sleeping liner. The bags are cleaned after every use and have a maximum usage of 30 trips.

· US\$ 20.00 per person

» Trekking Poles

Trekking Poles are very useful on rough and uneven terrain. If you'd like, you can rent a set from our company.

- US\$ 20.00 per person
- » Lunch in Aguas Calientes and Dinner in Cusco (Day 4)
- » Travel Insurance

» Tips for our staff

Tipping is usual 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 porters 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, acts 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:







» 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 team of porters will carry them along the route and give them to you when you get to each camp. They measure $60 \times 24 \times 22$ cm $(23.6 \times 9.45 \times 8.66$ in).

A maximum of 6 kg / 13.2 lb is allowed for each duffel bag, including the weight of vour 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 from Machu Picchu 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.

» 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 your transport, accommodations, 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
- » Waterproof gaiter
- » Long sleeve t-shirts
- » Warm jacket
- » Waterproof jacket
- » Raincoat or rain poncho.
- » Sun hat to protect neck and face
- » 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