



TREK

# THE CLASSIC SALKANTAY TREK

*5 days / 4 nights*

**Salkantay**  
TREKKING  
Treks & Expeditions Specialists





# DESCRIPTION

## *The Savage Mountain Trail to Machu Picchu*

After immersing yourself in the rich history of Cusco, the capital of the Inca Empire, join us on the Classic Salkantay Trek to the awe-inspiring Machu Picchu. This exceptional alternative route to the Inca citadel will lead you through the breathtaking Humantay Lake, past the imposing Salkantay Mountain, and into the enchanting cloud forest, culminating at the edge of the vibrant Peruvian jungle.

Each night, you'll unwind in comfortable accommodations and savor some of the most delicious meals—all in the heart of the mountains. Our experienced guides will accompany you every step of the way, sharing their deep knowledge of the region's history and natural wonders. Experience this journey in comfort and great company, surrounded by the beauty of the Andes.

# CONTENT



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Itinerary



Inclusions



Packing List



# The Classic Salkantay Trek 05 Days



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- Distance / Hours
- Lunch & Rest Area
- Pass Point
- River
- Footpath
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- Rail Road

## Classic Salkantay Trek to Machu Picchu 05 Days Itinerary

- Day 01:** Cusco - Mollepata - Challacancha - Soraypampa - Humantay lake - Soraypampa (Sky Camp)  
**Day 02:** Soraypampa - Salkantaypampa - Soyrococha - Salkantay Pass - Wayracmachay - Chaullay - Collapampa (Mountain Sky View)  
**Day 03:** Collapampa - Wiñaypoqo - Loreta - Playa Sahuayaco - Lucmabamba (Jungle Domes)  
**Day 04:** Lucmabamba - Llaclapata Pass - Llaclapata - Aobamba - Hidroelectrica - Aguas Calientes (Hotel)  
**Day 05:** Aguas Calientes - Machu Picchu - Aguas Calientes - Ollantaytambo - Cusco

Distancia	Tiempo	Altura máxima	Dificultad
10km   6.21mi	5-6 hrs	4,200m   13,780ft	Challenging
23.5km   14.6mi	10 - 11 hrs	4,630m   15,190ft	Challenging
17km   10.56mi	5-6 hrs	2,950m   9,678ft	Moderate
25km   15.53mi	8-9 hrs	2,800m   9,186ft	Challenging
3km   1.86mi	2-3 hrs	2,430m   7,972ft	Easy



# FULL ITINERARY

## HIGHLIGHTS

- » The Salkantay Trek is considered one of the 25 best treks in the world by National Geographic Adventure Travel Magazine.
- » Enjoy one of the very best trekking adventures you'll find in Peru and South America.
- » Besides the Inca Trail, the Salkantay Trek is one of the most popular treks to Machu Picchu and is less frequented by tourists.
- » Visit stunning locations like Humantay Lake and the glorious Salkantay Mountain.
- » Witness incredible scenery like cascades, waterfalls, glaciers, mountains, colorful valleys, unique plants and wildlife, and the cloud forest.
- » Hike alongside the magnificent Salkantay glacier.
- » Exploring the ancient citadel of Machu Picchu is one of the greatest experiences in the world.



# DAY 01

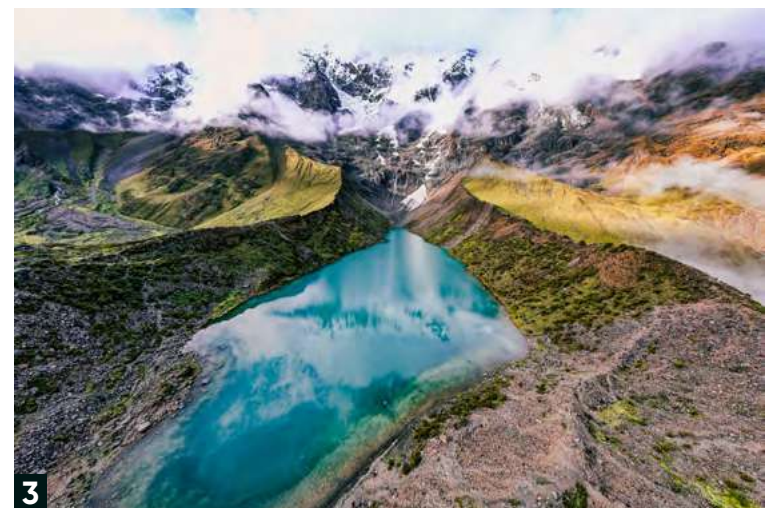
Cusco – Mollepata – Challacancha –  
Soraypampa – Humantay Lake – Sky Camp

## Hike to the Jewel in the Mountains

You'll be up nice and early today to be ready for us to pick you up around 4:00 a.m. You'll travel in our comfy transportation with blankets to enjoy a bit more sleep on the drive. After 2 hours, we'll enjoy a brief stop in Mollepata for an optional breakfast. We'll then continue to Challacancha, where we'll start our hike.

First, you'll meet the cooks and horsemen and do a last equipment check. Then, we'll be on our way. You'll start with a 3-hour moderate walk to Soraypampa (3,900 m / 12,795 ft), where we'll be spending our first night. The first section is relatively flat, with a slight uphill through a deep valley of glaciers. You'll notice that much of the trail follows a restored Inca water channel, which local farmers still use today. This section is 7 km / 4.35 mi overall.

Once in Soraypampa, you'll get settled in at our exclusive Sky Camp, where you'll sleep this evening. You'll have time to rest after enjoying your first lunch in the mountains. Feeling refreshed, it'll be time to start the hike up to the incredibly beautiful Humantay Lake





(4,200 m /13,780 ft).

This round trip takes about 3 hours and covers 3 km / 1.86 mi. It's not far, but you need to take things slowly at this altitude. You'll have some time to enjoy the fantastic scenery once you get to the lake. There aren't many places in the Andes quite as stunning as the turquoise waters glistening against the Humantay glacier. You'll feel like you're in a fairy tale!

Back at camp, you'll enjoy a delicious and well-deserved dinner with a beautiful sunset in your company. You can't describe the energy here, but you'll feel its peacefulness for yourself once here. Then, it'll be time to turn into your Sky Camp igloo. From the glass roof, you'll be able to enjoy a night under the stars, constellations, and comets and wake up to see the Apu Salkantay watching over you.

Our dazzling SKY CAMP is located in front of the impressive mountains Humantay and Salkantay. This campsite creates the perfect union of sky and earth. It allows you to sleep calmly under a clear sky starred with an exceptional view of the constellations. At the same time, you can enjoy all the comforts of a first-class vacation home.

- » 26 igloos
- » 2 person per hut
- » Dinning room and kitchen
- » Toilets
- » **Optional:**
  - Wi-Fi



## DAY FACTS

- » MEALS:  
**Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner**
- » ACCOMMODATION:  
**Sky Camp**
- » DIFFICULTY:  
**Moderate to Challenging**
- » WALKING DISTANCE:  
**10 km / 6.21 mi**
- » WALKING TIME:  
**5 to 6 hours**
- » STARTING ELEVATION:  
**3,800 m / 12,467 ft**
- » MINIMUM ELEVATION:  
**3,800 m / 12,467 ft**
- » HIGHEST ELEVATION:  
**4,200 m / 13,780 ft**
- » CAMPSITE ELEVATION:  
**3,900 m / 12,795 ft**

1. Humantay Lagoon
2. Photo of the arrival to the Humantay Lagoon
3. Humantay Lagoon
4. Sky Camp
5. Sky Camp Dining Room
6. Interior of the Sky Camp domes



# DAY 02

Soraypampa – Salkantay Pass –  
Huayracmachay – Chaullay – Collpapampa  
(Mountain Sky View)

## The Stunning Salkantay Pass and Descent to the Amazon Jungle

In the morning, you will wake up with the day's first rays and see the Apu Salkantay while enjoying an energizing coca tea. Afterward, you will have a nutritious breakfast before embarking on the 7 km trek for approximately three hours to the highest point of the route, the Salkantay Pass (4,630 m / 15,190 ft). It is a difficult ascent along the "path of the 7 snakes" because of its winding path.

Once at the top, you will appreciate the most magnificent view over the surrounding valleys and the Salkantay mountain right in front of you (6,271 m / 20,574 ft). It boasts the second-highest mountain in the Cusco region, and it's considered an Apu (Inca God). You will also be able to observe the mountains: Humantay, Tucurhuay, and Pumasillo. After enjoying the views and rest, you will start descending (7 km / 4.35 mi) to our lunch point at Huayracmachay (3,850 m / 12,631 ft). This section is rocky and steep but has





impressive views of the surrounding valley.

After a revitalizing lunch, you will enter the edge of the rainforest, also known as the "cloud forest." This section has a distance of 9.5 km / 5.9 mi and lasts approximately three and a half hours. Along the way, you will enjoy the verdant rainforest and witness how the scenery changes rapidly and drastically from the Andes to the Amazon. You will observe colorful landscapes, unique fauna, and native plants and feel the warmer climate.

After a long day of hiking, you will be glad to arrive at Collpapampa for the night. Finally, we will serve you a hearty meal before resting at our exclusive Mountain Sky View Campsite.

Like in the times of our ancestors, our commitment is to our Pachamama (Mother Earth) and the Apus (sacred Mountains). Our campsite Mountain Sky View is adapted to the natural environment without generating any audio-visual impact, constructed with elements found in the same area, and located in a place surrounded by tropical mountains and rocky rivers under the shining stars.

- » 16 huts
- » 2 people per hut
- » Dining room and kitchen
- » Toilets and Hot shower
- » **Optional:**
  - Wi-Fi



## DAY FACTS

- » MEALS:  
**Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner**
- » ACCOMMODATION:  
**Mountain Sky View**
- » DIFFICULTY:  
**Challenging**
- » WALKING DISTANCE:  
**23.5 km / 14.6 mi**
- » WALKING TIME:  
**10 – 11 hours**
- » STARTING ELEVATION:  
**3,900 m / 12,795 ft**
- » MINIMUM ELEVATION:  
**2,900 m / 9,514 ft**
- » HIGHEST ELEVATION:  
**4,630 m / 15,190 ft**
- » CAMPSITE ELEVATION:  
**2,950 m / 9,678 ft**

1. Salkantay Pass
2. Salkantay snow-capped mountain
3. A moment of rest at the foot of the majestic Apu Salkantay.
4. Mountain Sky View
5. Comfortable Andean-style cabins
6. Interior of the Mountain Sky View



# DAY 03

Collpapampa - La Playa - Lucmabamba -  
Jungle Domes

## Jungle Adventure and Coffee Experience

Today you'll be woken at 6:00 a.m. for your tea and breakfast before leaving the campsite. Our first destination will be La Playa, walking through the Santa Teresa Valley. You'll enjoy a more leisurely walk today with more downs than ups as you soak in the lush landscape of rivers, waterfalls, orchids, and many plantations, including banana, coffee, and avocado.

We'll pass through a small village called Collpapampa, and after, descend through a valley where you'll observe waterfalls, birds, hot springs, fruit trees, and plenty of flora and fauna. You might be lucky enough to see the national bird of Peru, the 'Cock of the Rock.'

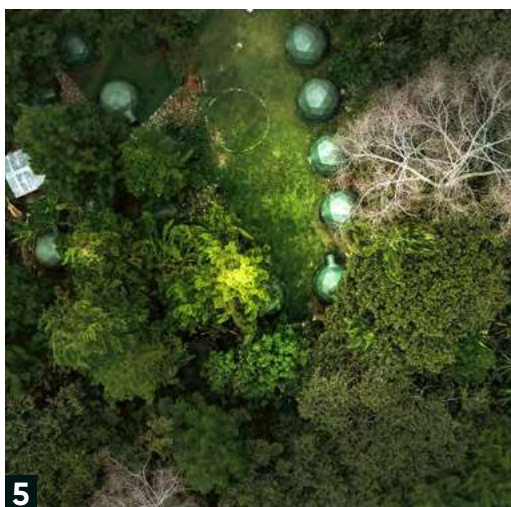
In La Playa, we'll devour a tasty lunch before we head to Lucmabamba (2,000 m / 6,562 ft), just another hour away. In the afternoon, you will have free time





to explore the tropical surroundings and visit an organic coffee farm, especially perfect for those who are coffee lovers. Even if you are not a fan of a cup of coffee, the smell in the air is delicious. This is the primary agricultural industry in the jungle that exports products to the United States, Asia, and Europe. You will also visit avocado and orange plantations.

After dinner, of course, you will go to bed for the night in one of our exclusive camps, Jungle Domes. While resting, you can listen to the different sounds of nature and feel in harmony with Mother Earth.



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

## DAY FACTS

- » MEALS:  
**Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner**
- » ACCOMMODATION:  
**Jungle Domes**
- » DIFFICULTY:  
**Moderate**
- » WALKING DISTANCE:  
**17 km / 10.56 mi**
- » WALKING TIME:  
**5 to 6 hours**
- » STARTING ELEVATION:  
**2,950 m / 9,678 ft**
- » MINIMUM ELEVATION:  
**2,000 m / 6,562 ft**
- » HIGHEST ELEVATION:  
**2,950 m / 9,678 ft**
- » CAMPSITE ELEVATION:  
**2,000 m / 6,562 ft**

1. Hike through the lush Amazon rainforest
2. Beautiful waterfalls
3. Traditional coffee elaboration
4. Aerial view of the Jungle Domes
5. Domes mimicking nature
6. Comfortable interior of the domes



# DAY 04

Lucmabamba – Llactapata – Aobamba –  
Hidroeléctrica – Aguas Calientes

## Enjoy Your First Glance of Machu Picchu from Llactapata

You'll be eager to put on your hiking boots for your last day of trekking after you've filled up on fuel at breakfast. This morning, you'll be able to walk along a bit of the original, world-famous Inca Trail! After a 2-hour uphill climb and fascinating views over the Santa Teresa Valley, you'll reach Llactapata (2,700 m / 8,858 ft), an Inca archaeological site right in front of Machu Picchu.

Llactapata is the first Inca site you'll see on the trek, and you'll learn all about the mysteries of this ancient culture and the extraordinary site. You even get to have your first exciting glance at Machu Picchu and Huayna Picchu from here. Your guide will fill you in on all the history of the Incas while you take all the photos you want to share your fantastic experiences with friends and family back home.

Afterward, you'll walk downhill for 1:30 hours, getting another couple of peeks at the Inca citadel, Machu Picchu, along the way – only making your anticipation for tomorrow stronger. We stop for lunch in Aobamba before we continue, for a half-hour, to Hidroeléctrica (1,800 m / 5,906 ft). One of the most impressive sites in this section is the 250-meter-tall artificial waterfall, which generates electricity for the entire city of Cusco.





Once in Hidroelectrica, you have two options: 1) If you're tired out after all the trekking, you can opt to board a train to Aguas Calientes (not included). If you want to enjoy the last stretch of the trek, you can take the flat walk along the side of the tracks to Aguas Calientes, which takes around 3 hours. It'll be one more chance to embrace the warm jungle surroundings as you hike.

Along the way, you'll see Intihuatana, an ancient rock the Incas used as a sundial, which worked together with the sundial stone at Machu Picchu. These were used to measure and read the winter solstice, meaning the beginning of the farming season for the Incas. Next, you'll reach the train tracks that lead to Aguas Calientes. Once in the small town, you'll enjoy dinner at a restaurant and spend the night in a comfortable hotel.

**Note:** During the rainy season, and for safety reasons, the hike up the Llastapata Trail isn't 100% guaranteed. When there's frequent heavy rain, this trail can become very dangerous.

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 rooms
- » 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**
- » WALKING TIME:  
**8-9 hours**
- » STARTING ELEVATION:  
**2,000 m / 6,562 ft**
- » MINIMUM ELEVATION:  
**1,800 m / 5,906 ft**
- » 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 Llastapata viewpoint
2. Archaeological site of Llastapata
3. Bridge over the Amazon forest in Aobamba.
4. Aguas Calientes
5. Hotel in Aguas Calientes
6. Comfortable rooms



# DAY 05

Aguas Calientes | Machu Picchu –  
Ollantaytambo – Cusco

## Tour of the Incredible Incan Citadel: Machu Picchu

Today's the day you've been waiting since you first set foot on the trail. You'll finally visit one of the 7 Wonders of the World and UNESCO World Heritage Site – Machu Picchu! You'll need to be up early today to make sure you beat the crowds and enjoy the serenity of the site in the early morning light.

Once in the Inca citadel, you'll enjoy a guided tour of approximately two hours through the most relevant sectors of this incredible ancient site. You'll see houses, temples, terraces, and crop fields, among others. You will be impressed by the intelligence of the Incas in terms of engineering work, which was way ahead of its time and remains a mystery in many aspects.

The Incas did not have the tools we use today, but they could still build and organize their community on the side of a mountain and even create a water system with aqueducts and canals.

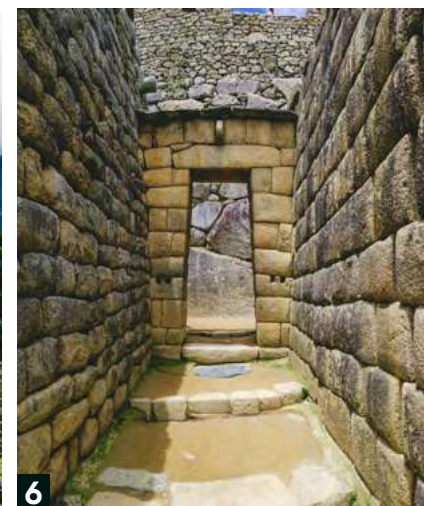
**Bonus Fact:** When a Peruvian guide showed this site to Hiram Bingham, it was almost unrecognizable,





covered in thick vegetation and disrepair. It's since been cleaned and restored and is now protected and treasured by people from every corner of the globe.

Make sure you're back in Aguas Calientes for a spot of lunch before boarding your train to Ollantaytambo, which leaves at approximately 2:55 pm (subject to availability). Our private bus will collect you from the next station and drive you back to your hotel in Cusco at around 8 pm. You can now put your feet up and enjoy much-needed rest; however, your heart will still beat the Andes rhythm for many weeks, months, and years to come!



## DAY FACTS

- » MEALS:  
**Breakfast**
- » DIFFICULTY:  
**Easy**
- » ACTIVITY DURATION  
**2-3 hours exploring Machu Picchu**
- » MACHU PICCHU CITADEL  
ELEVATION:  
**2,430 m / 7,972 ft**
- » OPTIONAL MOUNTAINS  
**Moderate to Challenging**
- » MACHU PICCHU MOUNTAIN  
ELEVATION:  
**3,000 m / 9,843 ft (3-4 hours)**
- » HUAYNA PICCHU MOUNTAIN  
ELEVATION:  
**2,720 m / 8,924 ft (2 hours)**
- » HUCHUY PICCHU MOUNTAIN  
ELEVATION:  
**2,497 m / 8,192 ft (1.5 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

- Day 1: Entry Ticket to Humantay Lake & the Salkantay Trek
- Day 5: Entry Ticket to Machu Picchu Archaeological Site

The "Machu Picchu Circuit 2" ticket offers the most complete tour of the Machu Picchu citadel and is also the most requested. For this reason, we recommend booking it well in advance to secure your entry.

## » High Quality Service & Safety

- Pre-departure Briefing

You'll meet with your guide for an orientation the evening before the trek. The meeting will take place at 5:00 p.m. at our main office in Cusco.

- Experienced Tour Guide

Our official tour guides speak English and Spanish and are professionally trained and certified in safety and quality service. Chosen for their experience, responsibility, and passion for exploration, they take pride in sharing our culture and history. With their guidance, you'll stay informed, safe, and comfortable, ensuring a worry-free adventure and an unforgettable experience of a lifetime.

- One Duffle Bag

For the trek, you'll receive a duffle bag to pack your personal belongings, with a maximum weight limit of 5 kg (11 lb), which will be carried by our staff.

- 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.

- Backpack Cover & Rain Poncho

Our attention to detail sets us apart. You'll receive a cover to protect your backpack and a poncho for extra comfort and protection along the way.

- Professional long-range walkie-talkies

Walkie-talkies optimize communication, ensuring quick response and coordination in key situations and locations.

## » Accommodation

- Accommodation in Exclusive 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.



Sky Camp



Mountain Sky View



Jungle Domes

- Campsite Facilities

Our campsites are designed for your comfort and convenience:

- Bathrooms: Shared bathrooms are available at our Sky Camp and Jungle Domes, while our Mountain Sky View Campsite offers private bathrooms.
- Showers: Enjoy refreshing showers at both the Mountain Sky View and Jungle Domes Campsites.
- Dining & Kitchen Areas: Each campsite features spacious dining rooms and fully equipped kitchens, ensuring you can enjoy your meals comfortably and worry-free. Our mules transport all fresh cooking supplies.

- Day 4: Hotel in Aguas Calientes

Enjoy your final night in a cozy hotel with a double, matrimonial, or triple room, private bathroom, hot shower, WiFi, breakfast, and luggage storage while you explore Machu Picchu.



## » Meals

- 5 Breakfasts, 4 Lunches, and 4 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, warm water during your hike, from your lunch in Soraypampa to your breakfast in Lucmabamba. Make sure to bring an empty water bottle or camel bag for refilling—we recommend a 2-liter capacity.

- Wake up tea

Every morning at the campsites, you'll wake up to a hot cup of coca tea, delivered straight to your bed—perfect for warming up before you start the day.

- Tea Time or Happy Hour

During the trek, every afternoon before dinner, our cooks will serve popcorn, cookies, coffee, hot chocolate, tea, and hot water. After a long day of hiking, you won't have to wait until dinner to unwind, warm up, and enjoy a tasty treat!

- 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!

## » Transportation

- Transportation for the Salkantay Trek: Door-to-Door, Hassle-Free Service

- Day 1: You'll be picked up from your hotel in the morning and travel by private transportation to Challacancha, the trek's starting point.
- Day 5: Private transportation from Ollantaytambo train station to your hotel in Cusco.
- Day 5: One-Way Bus Ticket from Aguas Calientes to Machu Picchu



- Day 5: Train Ticket from Aguas Calientes to Ollantaytambo

Expedition Machu Picchu by PeruRail or The Voyager to Machu Picchu by Inca Rail (train options and schedules subject to availability).

- Personal Belongings Transportation

- On days 1, 2, and 3, cargo mules will carry all the camping equipment and your baggage allowance (5 kg / 11 lb). Muleteers will be responsible for your duffle bag and personal items, and they'll hand them to you when you get to each camp.
- On day 4, your duffle bag will be transported by van and then by train.



# 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. Each bag is thoroughly cleaned after every use.

- **US\$ 25.00 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\$ 25.00 per person**

## » Huayna Picchu Mountain

Up for a challenge? Climb Huayna Picchu, the iconic mountain behind Machu Picchu. This 45-minute uphill trek rewards you with breathtaking views and a profound sense of achievement. It's not for the faint-hearted, but if you're afraid of heights, push through—the reward is truly worth it!

- **Cost: US\$ 60.00 per person.**
- **Booking:** Reserve 2–3 months in advance due to high demand.
- **Entry Times:** 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. (recommended)

With your 6:00 a.m. Machu Picchu Citadel Circuit 2 entrance, you'll have time to climb Huayna Picchu after your guided tour. This portion is completed independently, following your guide's instructions.

## » Machu Picchu Mountain

Machu Picchu Mountain is one of the breathtaking peaks that surround the archaeological site. Its trails are less steep, wider, and less intimidating than those of Huayna Picchu, making it an excellent option for those seeking a more relaxed climb. Reaching the summit takes approximately 1.5 hours and offers unforgettable panoramic views. This hike requires an entrance ticket, which we can secure for you in advance upon request.

- **Cost: US\$ 60.00 per person.**

- **Entry Times:** 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m.

Your included entrance to Machu Picchu Citadel Circuit 2 is scheduled for 6:00 a.m. If you wish to hike Machu Picchu Mountain, you can select the 8:00 a.m. entry time. However, this will require pausing your guided tour of the citadel to complete the hike independently, following your guide's recommendations.

## » Return bus ticket Consettur from Machu Picchu to Aguas Calientes (Day 5)

## » Lunch in Aguas Calientes and Dinner in Cusco (Day 5)

## » Optional Horseback Ride from Soraypampa to Humantay Lake (Day 1 and from Soraypampa to Salkantay Pass (Day 2)

## » Train from Hidroelectrica to Aguas Calientes (Day 4)

In case you feel exhausted or in bad condition after the trek from Lucmabamba to Hidroelectrica, you can opt to take the train from Hidroelectrica to Aguas Calientes.

- **US\$ 40.00 per person**

## » Personal Hiking Clothes and Gear

## » Travel Insurance

## » Tips for our staff

While our team receives fair salaries, any additional gesture is always appreciated in recognition of their hard work and dedication. Participants often choose to pool their tips and present them directly to the hiking team or through their guide.

## » 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 carefree as possible. In this section, you'll find the answers to all your questions about traveling with Salkantay Trekking. Please read the following information carefully – it will also help you with any questions about our services.

## » Is it for me?

The Salkantay Trek to Machu Picchu is an excellent alternative to the Inca Trail trek and better suited for more adventurous trekkers who can handle higher altitudes and longer distances. Ascending to reach the famous Salkantay Pass (4,630 m / 15,190 ft) isn't too strenuous nor very steep since it's at the beginning of the trek. Still, it does require stamina and a little time in Cusco to acclimatize to the altitude before beginning the trek.

## » 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



Valle Sagrado



Maras Moray

## » Briefing or Informative Meeting

All briefing meetings are held at 5:00 p.m. in our main office in Cusco (or your hotel) the day before the tour. The meeting lasts between 30 to 45 minutes. If you're unable to attend, you'll need to arrange a different time by email, phone, or by visiting the Salkantay Trekking office.

## » Trek Balance Payment (in Cusco)

The tour has to be paid in full at most 2 days before your departure. Otherwise, your reservation will not be confirmed.

It would be greatly appreciated if you pay the tour balance (US dollars or Peruvian soles) at our office in Cusco. You can withdraw money from several ATMs located in the historical center. We also accept payments by CARD or PAYPAL online, but please note this is subject to a 5% fee (charged by Niubiz and PayPal). We do not accept bank checks or traveler's checks as payment methods.

## » Duffel Bag or Canvas Case

The evening before the trek, we'll provide you with a duffel bag to pack your clothes and personal gear needed for the trip. Our horsemen will carry it on the route and hand it to you once you get to each camp. Please note that you will not have access to your items in the bag until the end of each day.

The maximum weight allowed is 7 kg / 15.4 lb, including the weight of your sleeping bag, clothes, and other personal items. They measure 60 x 24 x 22 cm (23.6 x 9.4 x 8.7 in).

## » Can I store my luggage at your office?

**Of course!** During the trip, you can store your main luggage for free at our office (arrange it with us on the briefing day or by email).

You can also safely keep any equipment you won't need for the tour in your hotel. Almost every hotel offers this service. Please do not leave valuable items in your bags; put them in the hotel safe and ask for an itemized receipt (in the unlikely case of theft, many insurance companies require that you have a copy of the receipt). For extra peace of mind, place items like credit cards inside a sealed and signed envelope.



## » Pick up of guests

### Please note:

- All pickups are within Cusco City, but we recommend booking a hotel in the historic center for its convenient location.
- Our guide or staff will confirm the pickup time the day before the tour.
- Due to traffic conditions, the pickup time may vary between 30 and 45 minutes.
- Cusco is an old city and has many narrow cobbled streets. Some hotels and Airbnbs are located on streets without car access or on long, steep slopes, making it difficult to transport luggage. For such reasons, we strongly advise you to 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.

**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 people with varying physical conditions and ages. By agreeing to be part of a group tour, you acknowledge that some people may be faster or slower than you. Therefore, each person can go at their own pace on the route.

In some cases, a group may want to modify the tour; however, the guide will be the one who decides, after consulting with all participants, whether such changes are possible.



## » Strikes and demonstrations

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

In case of changes or cancellations, our operations department will coordinate everything with you. Your safety is our highest priority, and we will make our decisions to protect it.

## » Lost objects

Please pay attention to where you leave your belongings and remember to take everything once you leave a place or a transport. 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).





  
**Salkantay**  
TREKKING  
Trek & Expeditions Specialists

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