



Close to the city of Cusco is one of the most stunning natural sights you can imagine — the mountain of seven colors, aka, Rainbow Mountain, or Vinicunca. If you're looking for an exciting day out of the city, that'll challenge you but give you the most fantastic rewards, this is the perfect option.

Get ready to discover one of the most impressive natural wonders on the planet in the middle of the Peruvian Andes. If you visit Cusco, this day trip is a must! Our one-day tour to Vinicunca, or Rainbow Mountain, will take you through remote high-altitude barren lands and through isolated communities found in the Vilcanota mountain range. You'll also be able to witness the immensity of the sacred Ausangate mountain (6,372 m/ 20,905 ft), the highest in the region.

#### Overview

Join us on this epic one-day trip away from the city and get out into nature, among the most beautiful landscapes imaginable. Whether you're traveling by yourself, as a couple, or in a larger group, we have daily departures to

accommodate you. This tour is designed for travelers with little time and great physical resistance.

Along the route, the difficulty ranges from moderate to challenging, which is mainly due to the high altitude that reaches over 5,000 meters. We recommend you spend a day or two in Cusco to acclimatize before joining one of our

Despite the fact that Rainbow Mountain is usually full of tourists, we start our adventure very early to be the first to arrive. This way, you can enjoy the peacefulness and beauty without many interruptions. We take our time and enjoy the hike without pressure.

On the hike, expect to immerse yourself in the lifestyle of the inhabitants in the small communities, observe numerous herds of llamas and alpacas grazing in the mountains, and be a first-hand witness of millions of years of geological history. The imposing mountain landscape is sure to be the protagonist of your photographs. Choose Salkantay Trekking for the ultimate tour in the Andes.





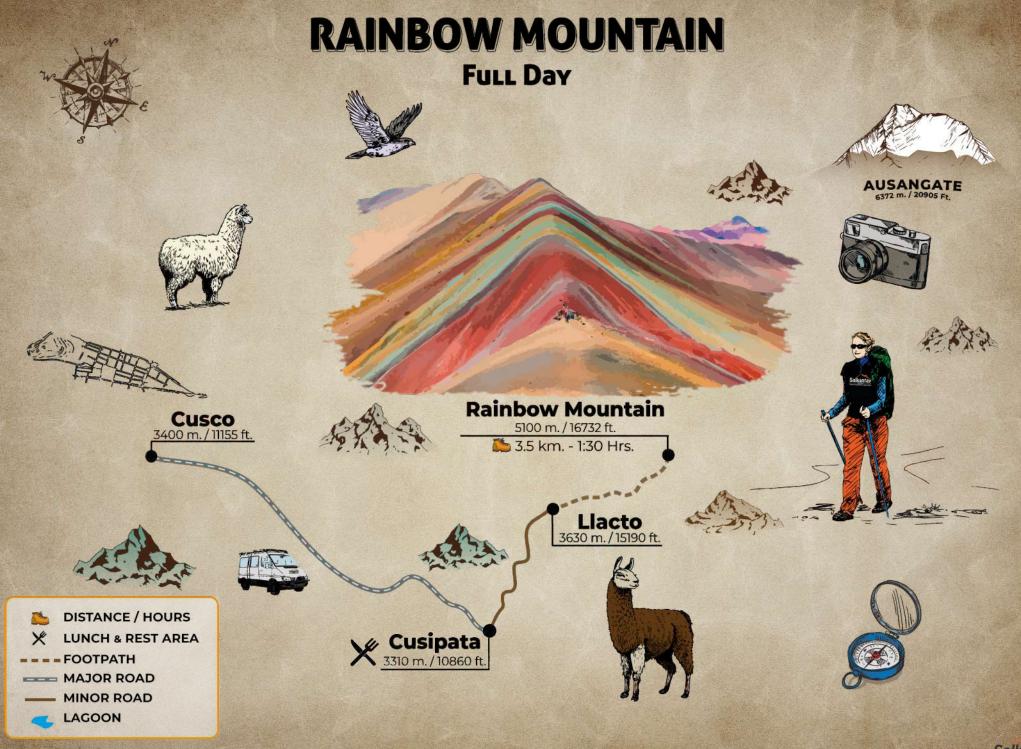
















# FULL ITINERARY

# Rainbow Mountain full day trek

#### **Highlights**

- Hike among some of the most stunning Andean landscapes imaginable and let Mother Nature whisk you away in her sheer beauty.
- Immerse yourself in the small mountain communities and witness how they live their lives so far away from the city.
- Observe the unique flora and fauna and see alpacas and llamas grazing in the mountains and roaming free.
- Hike to one of the most unique places on our planet and snap some special photos of the spectacular geological formation.
- Enjoy views of the highest mountain in the Cusco region, Ausangate, whose snowy peak stands tall nearby.



FEATURED DESTINATION OF THE DAY

# RAINBOW Mountain



#### Cusco | Cusipata - Llacto - Rainbow Mountain Peru, Vinicunca

Highlight of the Day: Arriving at the spectacular Rainbow Mountain and enjoying the amazing panoramic view of the surrounding landscape.





Our epic adventure begins at 4:00 am. We'll pick you up from the door of your accommodation to head for 3 hours towards the Southern Valley of Cusco in our private transport. Despite the early morning, you'll have the opportunity to catch some more z's along the way in our comfortable transport with the cozy blankets that we provide for you.

Along the way, we'll observe pictures Andean towns, agricultural platforms from the Inca period, fertile valleys, and beautiful rolling mountains. We'll stop off and observe the herds of llamas and alpacas that'll entertain you while you enjoy a delicious continental breakfast to give you the nourishing boost you need to begin the hike.

We'll continue our journey until we reach the starting point of the hike at 4,630 m / 15,190 ft. There we'll start by heading along a meandering path in the middle of the Andean mountains that follows a pretty stream. As you ascend, you'll be rewarded with the impressive view of the Ausangate Mountain (6,372 m / 20,905 ft). Take a few minutes to try to understand why this mountain is a living deity for the Andean people.

This remote region is home to many people, and you'll have the opportunity to see them working the land. You'll also be amazed to see the traditional clothing they use and make themselves thanks to the artistic textile talents that they've inherited from their ancestors. This is one of the many ways an ancient culture is preserved in the rural

regions of Peru that refuses to be submitted by the rules of the western world. Your guide will teach you about the meaning of some garments and, if you want, you can ask him to teach you some words in Quechua, the native language of many inhabitants of the zone and one that's been spoken since Inca times.

After an hour-and-a-half of walking, we'll reach the amazing Rainbow Mountain of Cusco (5,100 m / 16,732 ft). Take your time to admire the astounding beauty of this impressive natural formation and feel the thrill of witnessing a unique natural site. You'll explore the surroundings a little and take in the stunning landscape while your guide explains the theories that exist regarding the origin of this mountain that seems like it's been taken from a colorful dream. Use this opportunity to take some incredible photos or simply immerse yourself in the landscape. We'll spend around 30 minutes to an hour at the top, depending on how fast you hiked and the weather conditions. If you wish to spend more time there, let your guide know.

It'll take us another hour until we reach the starting point of the hike, from where we'll board our transport to the restaurant in Cusipata and enjoy a buffet lunch. Then, we'll board our private transport once again to get back to the city of Cusco. We'll leave you at the door of your accommodation to rest your tired legs.



Breakfast and Lunch



Difficulty Moderate



**Walking Distance** 7 km / 4.35 miles



Walking Time 2-3 hours



Minimum Elevation 4,630 m / 15,190 ft



**Highest Elevation** 5,100 m / 16,732 ft







# INCLUSIONS

# **Included / Not Included**

At **Salkantay Trekking**, we specify the included and non-included services under all the tour itineraries listed on our website. We take care of all the logistics, but please pay attention to the details to avoid missing anything. Some items may be different for specific programs, so please read carefully before booking with us.

### WHAT IS INCLUDED?

#### **High Quality Service & Safety**

#### ✓ Pre-departure Briefing

You'll meet your tour guide and group in our office for an orientation before your trek. The meeting will be at 5:00 pm the evening before the trip begins.

#### ✓ Experienced Tour Guide

English and spanish speaking, professionally educated, and official tour guide. Your guide will explain the culture and surroundings along the entire route, including leading your group in ancient ceremonies! He or she will keep you safe, sound, and comfortable on your trek so that you can enjoy your time worry-free!

#### ✓ 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, traveler's 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 pair of walking sticks with rubber tips (or trekking poles) and a rain poncho.

#### ✓ Customer Service 24/7

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

#### ✓ Breakfast and Lunch

#### ✓ Snacks and water

Before starting your trekking, your tour guide will provide you a cloth bag with local fruits, cookies, chocolate, caramels, etc. In addition, you'll receive a bottle of water.

#### ✓ 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.

#### ✓ Products for hygiene

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

#### Transportation

#### ✓ Private Transport

All your transportation is included in this package. We will pick you up from your hotel and take you to the starting point of the hike. Once you complete the tour, we will take you back to the door of your hotel in Cusco.

#### Permits & Entrance Tickets

✓ Entry Ticket for Peru's Rainbow Mountain















WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED?

- **✓** Dinner
- ✓ Hiking Clothes
- √ Travel Insurance
- ✓ Tips for our staff

Tipping is the norm on any excursion in Peru. Although we pay good salaries to our entire team, something extra is always welcome, especially considering the hard work they do.

✓ Additional costs or delays beyond our control

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

















# BEFORE YOU GO

### Is it for me?

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.

### **BEFORE YOU GO**

#### 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.

#### 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.

#### **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 usually 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 or restaurant. You're the only one responsible for your objects during the tour.

Do you have another question that we haven't answered here? Get in touch, and we'll get back to you ASAP!















## W W W . S A L K A N T A Y T R E K K I N G . C O M



24 HRS. EMERGENCY CALL:

+51 958191179

[Opening hours – 9 am to 8 pm]



Phone: +51 958191179

Email: sales@salkantaytrekking.com

Skype: salkantay.trekking



Mailing Address: Triunfo Street 392, office

212, 2nd floor - Main Square of Cusco