



TREK

THE PREMIUM SALKANTAY TREK

5 days / 4 nights

Salkantay
TREKKING
Treks & Expeditions Specialists



DESCRIPTION

A Lifetime Experience in the Middle of Sacred Mountains

Spark your adventurous heart with the Premium Salkantay Trek, the ultimate experience to the iconic Machu Picchu. This upgraded trip takes you to the emblematic Humantay Lake, the glacial jewel of the Andes. Then, it'll challenge you to reach the spectacular Salkantay, one of Peru's tallest peaks, and to cross the Cloud Forest's lush edge.

You'll sleep at our exclusive Mountain Sky View campsite with unrivaled views and continue to glimpse your first sight of Machu Picchu from Llactapata. And what better way to end at the Wonder of the World than a guided tour of the Lost City of the Incas. Complete with epic views from the optional Huayna Picchu or Machu Picchu mountains and the scenic train back to Cusco. Join now our skilled guides on one of Peru's greatest trails!

CONTENT



Map



Itinerary



Inclusions



Packing List



Premium Salkantay Trek 05 Days



Salkantay
TREKKING
Trek & Expeditions Specialists

Humantay Mountain
5,950m / 19,521ft



Salkantay Mountain
6,271m / 20,574ft

Salkantay Pass
4,630m / 15,190ft



Collapapampa
Mountain Sky View
2,950m / 9,678ft

Trekking Starting Point
Challacancha
3,800m / 12,467ft

Mollepata
2,850m / 9,350ft



Soraypampa
Sky Camp
3,900m / 12,795ft

Humantay Lake
4,200m / 13,780ft

Soyrococha
4,490m / 14,731ft

Machu Picchu
2,430m / 7,972ft



Llaqtapata
2,700m / 8,858ft



Passion Fruit
Plantations

Llaqtapata Pass
2,800m / 9,186ft



Playa Sahuayaco
2,060m / 6,759ft
Coffee
Experience

Wiñaypoqo
2,510m / 8,235ft

Loreta
2,150m / 7,054ft

Playa Sahuayaco
2,060m / 6,759ft

Lucmabamba
Super Jungle Domes
2,000m / 6,562ft

Thermal Baths
Cocalmayo
1,511m / 4,957ft

Ollantaytambo
2,792m / 9,160ft

Aguas
Calientes
2,040m / 6,693ft

Aobamba
1,900m / 6,234ft

Hidroelectrica
1,800m / 5,906ft

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

Premium 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 - Collapapampa (Mountain Sky View)
- Day 03:** Collapapampa - Wiñaypoqo - Loreta - Playa Sahuayaco - Lucmabamba - Cocalmayo - Lucmabamba (Super Jungle Domes)
- Day 04:** Lucmabamba - Llaqtapata Pass - Llaqtapata - Aobamba - Hidroelectrica - Aguas Calientes (Hotel)
- Day 05:** Aguas Calientes - Machu Picchu - Aguas Calientes - Ollantaytambo - Cusco

Distancia	Tiempo	Altura máxima	Dificultad
10km 6.2mi	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

- » Take part in one of the world's best 25 treks, according to the National Geographic Travel Magazine.
- » The Premium Salkantay Trek offers an exceptional glamping experience, including an exclusive night in our Mountain Sky View Huts with breathtaking views of lush, green mountains and an immersive stay in our Super Jungle Domes, designed for a deep connection with nature and wildlife.
- » Visit the popular Humantay Lake and marvel at the greatness of Salkantay Mountain from its base.
- » Walk through incredible scenery like cascades, waterfalls, glaciers, mountains, colorful valleys, unique plants and wildlife, and the cloud forest.
- » Discover the ancient citadel of Machu Picchu and enjoy an optional climb to one of its nearby peaks—Huayna Picchu, Huchuy Picchu, or Machu Picchu Mountain—for some of the most breathtaking views on earth.

DAY 01

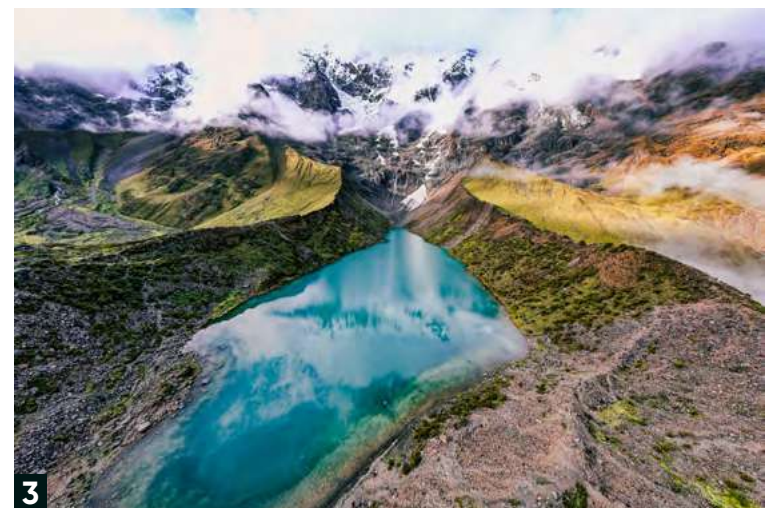
Cusco – Mollepata – Challacancha –
Soraypampa – Humantay Lake – Sky Camp

Hike to the Jewel in the Mountains

Today, you will get an early start and be picked up from your hotel around 4:00 a.m. You will travel in our comfortable transportation with blankets if you wish to sleep a little longer during the trip. After two hours, we will briefly stop in Mollepata for an energizing breakfast. Then, we will continue to Challacancha, the starting point of the trek.

Before starting our adventure, you will meet the cooks and muleteers and check your luggage one last time before we head out on the trail. You will begin with a moderate three-hour hike to Soraypampa (3,900 m / 12,795 ft), where we will spend the first night. The first part of the section is relatively flat, with a slight ascent through a deep glacier valley. You will notice that much of the trail follows a restored Inca water canal, which local farmers still use today. This trail is 7 km / 4.35 mi in total.

Once in Soraypampa, you will settle into our exclusive Sky Camp for the night. You will have time to rest after enjoying your first lunch around the mountains. After recharging your energy, we will start hiking to the beautiful Humantay Lake (4,200 m / 13,780 ft).



This round trip takes three hours and covers 3 km / 1.86 miles. It is not far but take it easy at this altitude. Once you reach the lagoon, you will have time to enjoy the fantastic scenery. Not many places in the Andes are as impressive as the turquoise waters glistening against the Humantay glacier. You will truly feel like you are in a fairy tale.

Upon returning to camp, you will enjoy a delicious and well-deserved dinner in the company of a beautiful sunset. There is no way to describe the energy here; you will feel tranquility once you arrive. Afterward, you can relax in your igloo at Sky Camp. From the glass roof, you will enjoy a night under the stars, constellations, and comets.

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 people per igloo
- » Dining room and kitchen
- » Toilets
- » **Optional:**
 - Wi-Fi



DAY FACTS

- » MEALS:
Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner
- » ACCOMMODATION:
Glass-Topped Sky Camp
- » DIFFICULTY:
Moderate to Challenging
- » WALKING DISTANCE:
10 km / 6.2 mi
- » WALKING TIME:
5-6 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

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1. Humantay Lagoon
 2. Sky Camp
 3. Sky Camp Dining Room
 4. 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.



1



2



3

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.

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 Hot shower
- » **Optional:**
 - Wi-Fi



DAY FACTS

- » MEALS:
Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner
- » ACCOMMODATION:
Mountain Sky View Campsite
- » 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

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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 Domes
 5. Amazing Views from Sky View Domes
 6. Interior of the domes

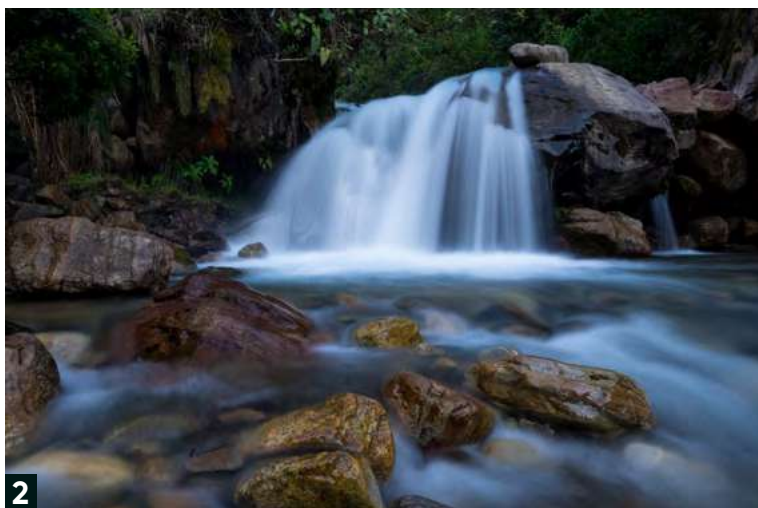
DAY 03

Collpapampa - Loreta - La Playa -
Lucmabamba - Cocalmayo -
Super Jungle Domes

Live the coffee experience

Today, our day begins at 6:00 a.m. with a warm cup of tea and breakfast before we depart from the campsite. We'll embark on a scenic walk through the Santa Teresa Valley, making our way to our first destination, La Playa. The trail is more relaxed, with gentle downhill paths and fewer inclines, allowing us to fully appreciate the lush landscape of rivers, waterfalls, orchids, and diverse plantations, including banana, coffee, and avocado. Keep an eye out for Peru's national bird, the vibrant Gallito de las Rocas, which you might be lucky enough to spot.

At La Playa, you'll have free time to explore the tropical surroundings and visit a local organic coffee farm—a paradise for coffee enthusiasts. Even if you're not a coffee drinker, the aroma of freshly brewed



coffee in the air is irresistible. Coffee farming is the region's primary agricultural industry, with exports reaching markets in the United States, Asia, and Europe. Additionally, you'll get the chance to visit avocado and orange plantations, gaining deeper insight into the local agricultural practices.

After this enriching experience, we'll continue to Lucmabamba (2,000 m / 6,562 ft), where our Super Jungle Domes campsite awaits, and enjoy a delicious lunch.

In the afternoon, we'll visit the Cocalmayo hot springs, the perfect spot to relax and unwind after several days of trekking. Take a soothing dip in the warm, mineral-rich waters and savor the peace and tranquility of the surroundings. Later, we'll return to the campsite, where you can rest and listen to the harmonious sounds of nature, reconnecting with the essence of 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.

- » 8 domes
- » 2 people per dome
- » Dining room and kitchen
- » Toilets and Hot shower
- » **Opcionales:**
 - Wi-Fi



DAY FACTS

- » MEALS:
Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner
- » ACCOMMODATION:
Super Jungle Domes
- » DIFFICULTY:
Moderate
- » WALKING DISTANCE:
17 km / 10.6 mi
- » WALKING TIME:
5-6 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

After a good breakfast, you will hike some of the original and world-famous Inca Trail. After climbing for two hours and enjoying fascinating views over the Santa Teresa valley, you will arrive at Llactapata (2,700 m / 8,858 ft), an Inca archaeological site in front of Machu Picchu.

Llactapata is the first Inca complex you will see on the hike, and you will learn all about the mysteries of this ancient culture and the extraordinary site. Even from here, you will get the first sight of Machu Picchu and Huayna Picchu. Our guide will explain the history of the Incas while you take as many pictures as you want as a souvenir to share your fantastic experiences with your friends and family back home.

Later, you will descend for an hour and a half and have the chance to glimpse the Inca citadel of Machu Picchu along the way, which will heighten your excitement for tomorrow. We will stop in Aobamba for lunch before continuing for another 30 minutes to



1



2



3

Hidroeléctrica (1,800 m/ 5,906 feet). One of the most impressive sights on this stretch is the 250-meter-high artificial waterfall that powers the entire city of Cusco.

Once in Hidroeléctrica, you will board the train that will take you to Aguas Calientes, appreciating the best scenery along the way. Once in the small town, you will enjoy dinner at an exclusive restaurant and spend the night in a comfortable hotel.

Note: Hiking the Llactapata trail is not 100% guaranteed during the rainy season, and for safety reasons, it can become very dangerous when there are frequent heavy rains.



DAY FACTS

- » MEALS:
Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner
- » ACCOMMODATION:
Superior 3-star hotel
- » DIFFICULTY:
Challenging
- » WALKING DISTANCE:
14 km / 8.7 miles
- » 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

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

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

DAY 05

Aguas Calientes – Machu Picchu –
Ollantaytambo – Cusco

Tour of the Incredible Citadel of Machu Picchu

Today is the day you have been waiting for the whole trip. 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 to make sure you beat the crowds and enjoy the serenity of the site in the early morning light.

After going up to the Inca citadel by bus, you'll enjoy an approximately two-hour guided tour to this incredible ancient site to see temples, houses, palaces, and cultivated fields, among others. You'll be impressed by the intelligence of the Incas in terms of engineering work, which was far ahead of its time and remains a mystery in many respects. 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.

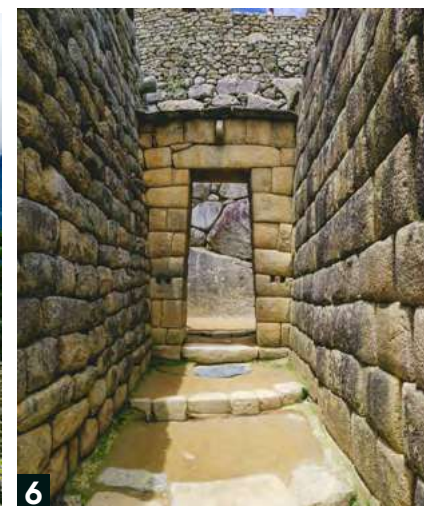


Bonus fact: When a Peruvian guide showed this site to Hiram Bingham, it was almost unrecognizable, covered in thick vegetation, and in disrepair. It's since been cleaned and restored and is now protected and treasured by people from every corner of the globe.

After your guided tour, you can book tickets in advance to climb Huayna Picchu Mountain (2,720 m / 8,924 ft) or Machu Picchu Mountain (3,000 m / 9,843 ft). These treks will take you two and three hours up and down, respectively.

Be sure to return to Aguas Calientes for lunch before boarding the train to Ollantaytambo. Our private transportation will pick you up at the next station and take you back to your hotel in Cusco. Finally, you will take a well-deserved rest; however, your heart will continue to beat to the rhythm of the Andes for many weeks, months, and years to come.

Important: For 2025 reservations, we upgrade the return to Cusco from the PeruRail Expedition Train Service to PeruRail Vistadome Train Service all our passengers will enjoy their third night in our new Super Jungle Domes. For 2024 reservations, we will continue staying in our comfortable Super Jungle Domes.



DAY FACTS

- » MEALS:
Breakfast and Lunch
- » 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)

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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: Day 1: Entry Ticket to Humantay Lake & the Salkantay Trek
- Day 3: Entry to Cocalmayo Hot Springs
- 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. If you can't attend, it can be arranged at your hotel upon prior request.

- 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 Duffel Bag

For the trek, you'll receive a duffel bag to pack your personal belongings, with a maximum weight limit of 10 kg (22 lb), which will be carried by our staff.

- Sleeping Bag

Our sleeping bags are durable and designed to keep you warm in temperatures as low as -18°C (0°F). They feature a mummy shape and include a sleeping liner for added warmth. Each bag is thoroughly cleaned and carefully maintained after every use.

- Trekking Poles

Trekking poles enhance stability on hard terrain while minimizing impact on joints.

- 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.

- Day 2: One emergency horse available for your group from Soraypampa to Salkantay Pass
- 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



Super Jungle Domes

- Campsite Facilities

Our campsites are designed for your comfort and convenience:

- Bathrooms: Shared bathrooms are available at our Sky Camp, while our Mountain Sky View and Super Jungle Domes Campsites offer private bathrooms.

- Showers: Enjoy refreshing showers at both the Mountain Sky View and Super Jungle Domes Campsites.
- Dining & Kitchen Areas: Each campsite features spacious dining areas and fully equipped kitchens, ensuring you can enjoy your meals comfortably and worry-free. Our mules transport all fresh cooking supplies.

• Day 4: Superior 3-Star Hotel in Aguas Calientes:

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

» Meals

• 5 Breakfasts, 5 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

• Day 0: Welcome to Cusco! Airport Pickup and Hotel Transfer

• Day N: Farewell, Cusco! – Hotel to Airport or Bus Terminal Transfer

• 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 3: Transport from Lucmabamba to the thermal baths of Cocalmayo.

- Day 5: Transport from Ollantaytambo train station to your hotel in Cusco.

- Day 5: Round-Trip Bus Ticket Aguas Calientes – Machu Picchu

• Train Tickets

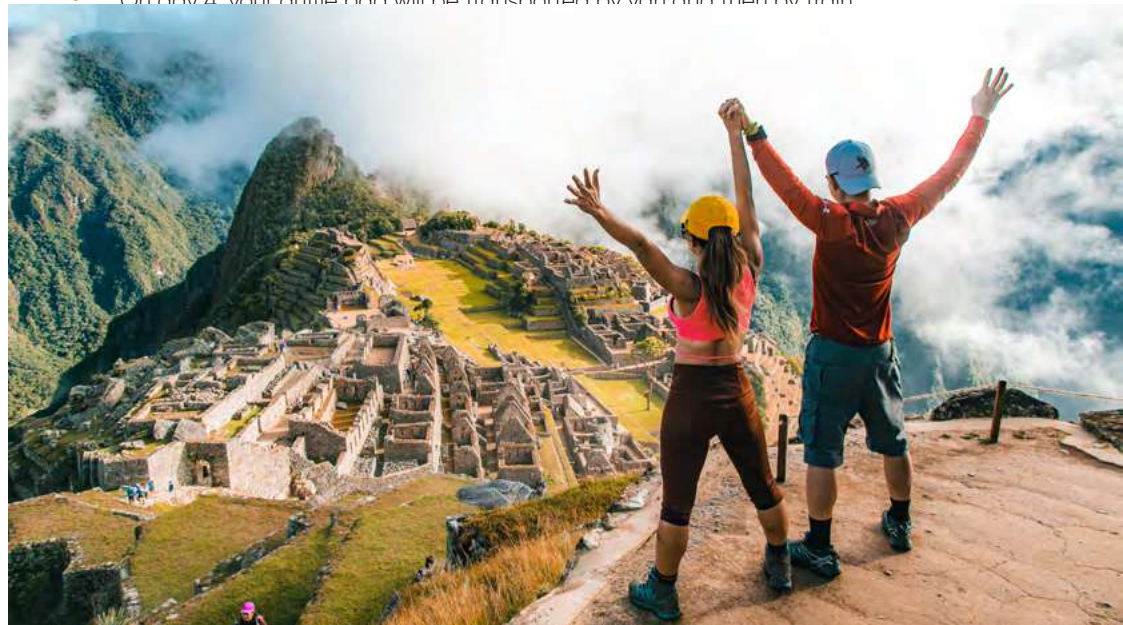
- Day 4: Train Ticket from Hidroelectrica to Aguas Calientes

- Day 5: Train Ticket from Aguas Calientes to Ollantaytambo (PeruRail Vistadome Observatory Service)

• Personal Belongings Transportation

- On days 1,2, and 3, cargo mules will carry all the camping equipment and your baggage allowance (10 kg / 22 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



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WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED?

» 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.

» Dinner in Cusco (Day 5)

» Personal Hiking Clothes and Gear

» Travel Insurance

» Optional Horseback Ride from Soraypampa to Humantay Lake (Day 1)

» 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.

» Duffle Bag or Travel Bag

The evening before you start your trek (during your briefing), we will provide you with a duffle bag to pack your clothes for the 5 days of your Salkantay Trek. Your weight allowance is up to 7 kg / 15.4 lb. Our horses will carry your duffle bag for you together with the food and camping gear. It is important to be aware that you will not have access to your items in the duffle bag until the end of each day, as the horsemen and horses will always be ahead of the group.

During the trip, you need a day backpack big enough to carry your personal belongings such as a warm jacket, raincoat, camera, sunscreen, snacks, water, etc. Usually, a 30 to 50-liter backpack is sufficient.

» 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 to Cusco

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

- Returning from Machu Picchu requires quite a bit of logistics, but don't worry. Everything is included in your tour!
- From Machu Picchu, you'll board a bus for 25 minutes to the town 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 with the boarding time. 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. The trip from Ollantaytambo to Cusco takes 1:30 hours.
- In Cusco, we'll drop you off directly at your hotel and, depending on your hotel's location, as close as possible.

» 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
- » 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