

The image shows two women in traditional Andean attire, including wide-brimmed hats and colorful shawls, working on a large outdoor loom. They are in a lush, green setting with trees and hanging textiles in the background. The woman in the foreground is focused on her work, holding a white thread. The woman in the background is also working on the loom. The scene is set outdoors, with a thatched roof visible in the upper right corner.

TREK

THE ANDEAN EXPLORER

CUSCO, SACRED VALLEY, SALKANTAY TREK, AND RAINBOW MOUNTAIN

9 days / 8 nights

Salkantay
TREKKING
Trek & Expeditions Specialists



DESCRIPTION

The majestic tour through the Andes

Discover the greatest in Cusco's architectural design on our 9-day Salkantay & Rainbow Mountain tour. This journey takes you to Machu Picchu, one of the World's New Seven Wonders, and Peru's Rainbow Mountain, also known as Vinicunca. Before beginning the Salkantay Trek, you'll also have the chance to take a guided tour of Cusco and a one-day journey to the Sacred Valley of the Incas to adapt to the high altitude.

This tour provides the ideal balance of culture and adventure. Join us for an extraordinary journey that highlights the finest examples of Cusco's natural beauty, history, and architecture.

CONTENT



Map



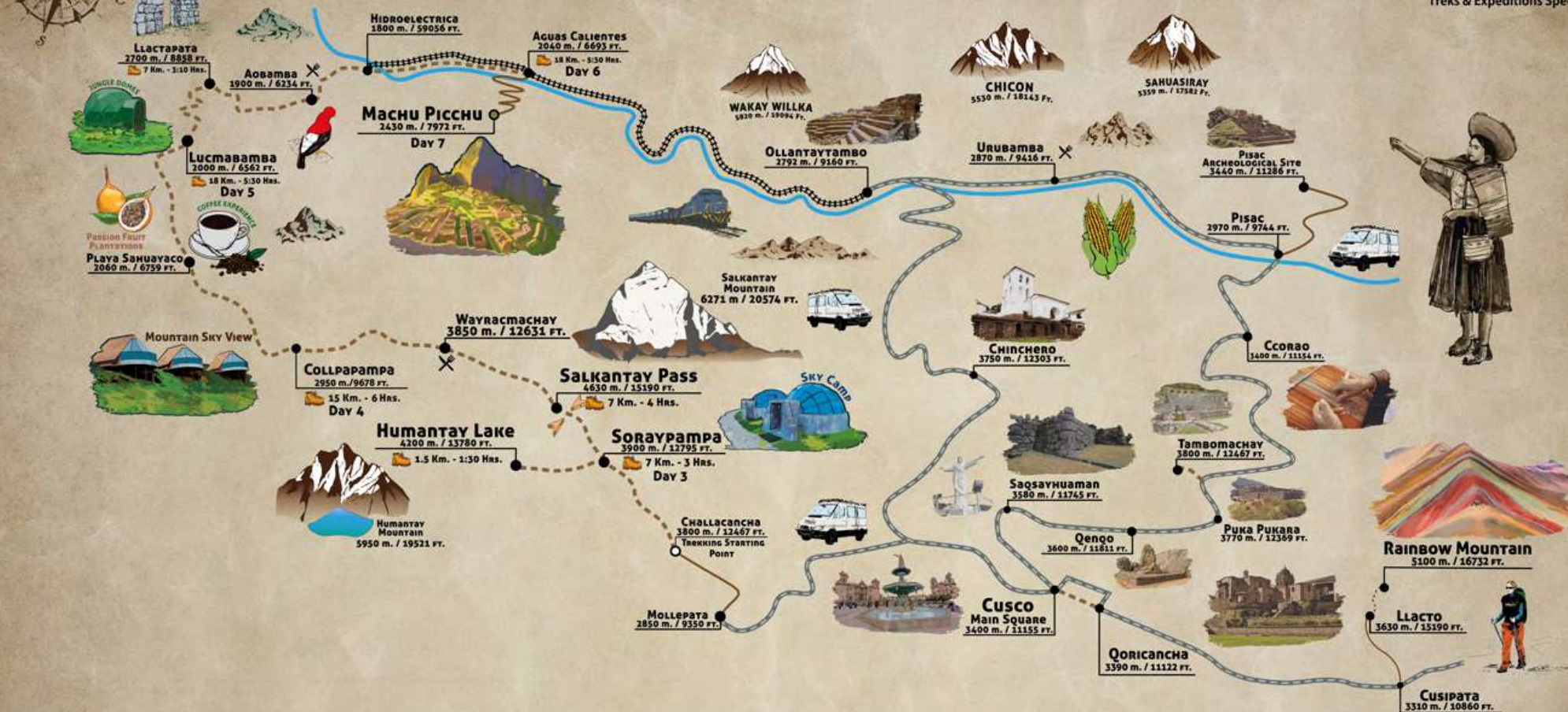
Itinerary



Inclusions



Packing List



DAY 01: Cusco Cathedral - Qoricancha - Sacsayhuaman - Qenqo - Puka Pukara - Tambomachay - Cusco

DAY 02: Cusco - Qorao - Pisac - Urubamba - Ollantaytambo - Chinchero - Cusco

DAY 03: Cusco - Mollepata - Challacancha - Soraypampa - Humantay Lake - Sky Camp

DAY 04: Soraypampa - Salkantay Pass - Huayracmachay - Collpapampa (Mountain Sky View)

DAY 05: Collpapampa - La Playa - Lucmabamba (Jungle Domes)

DAY 06: Lucmabamba - Llactapata - Hidroelectrica - Aguas Calientes

DAY 07: Aguas Calientes | Machu Picchu - Ollantaytambo - Cusco

DAY 08: Cusco | Cusipata - Llacto - Peru's Rainbow Mountain, Vinicunca - Llacto - Cusco

DAY 09: Cusco - Cusco's Airport (or Bus Station)

FULL ITINERARY

HIGHLIGHTS

- » Acclimate your body during the first two days and get ready to live without limits or regrets, one of the best hiking experiences in Peru.
- » Discover the magnificent capital of the Inca Empire by visiting the most important sites in and around Cusco.
- » Immerse yourself in the stunning beauty of the Sacred Valley of the Incas, where you'll marvel at the awe-inspiring Inca architecture.
- » Experience the tranquility of nature by spending nights in our exclusive campsites, surrounded by breathtaking natural scenery that will lull you into a peaceful slumber.
- » Embark on a breathtaking hike to the stunning Humantay Lake, a glittering gem nestled amidst the snow-capped mountains that will leave you spellbound.
- » Witness the grandeur of the imposing Salkantay Mountain and the snow-clad peaks surrounding it.
- » Immerse yourself in the breathtaking Andes, and the Amazon landscapes, where you can spot unique flora and fauna found only in this region.
- » Unravel the secrets of the mystical Machu Picchu, one of the world's most iconic wonders.
- » Marvel at the incredible natural beauty of Rainbow Mountain, a kaleidoscope of colors that will leave you in awe.

DAY 01

Cusco Cathedral – Temple of Qoricancha and
Convent of Santo Domingo – Sacsayhuaman –
Qenqo – Puka Pukara – Tambomachay – Cusco

Enjoying the most important sites in the city of Cusco.

Welcome to the imperial, Andean Inca city of Cusco, the cultural capital of Peru! Upon arrival, we will take you to your hotel to drop off your luggage and freshen up. After lunch and when you are ready, we will take a leisurely half-day tour of this amazing place as you acclimatize to the high altitude (3,400 m – 11,155 ft).

Cusco has a long history and is the oldest continuously inhabited city in all the Americas! Since about 1,000 B.C. people have lived in Cusco and regarded it as a center of the surrounding culture (then called Qosqo). It has been an important part of every civilization that has lived in the area throughout history, starting with the native people of Peru long before the famous Inca people.



On the arrival of the Inca Empire to Peru and beyond, Cusco became the navel of their far-reaching and powerful empire. Of course, the Incas were then conquered by Spaniards who also used Cusco as a colonial, regal capital for the area.

The attractions visited on this tour include:

- The Cusco Cathedral
- Qoricancha Temple and Santo Domingo Convent
- Sacsayhuaman
- Q'enqo
- Puka Pukara
- Tambomachay



DAY FACTS

» MINIMUM ELEVATION:
3,390 m / 11,122 ft

» HIGHEST ELEVATION:
3,800 m / 12,467 ft

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1. Cusco Main Square
 2. Cathedral of Cusco
 3. Qoricancha
 4. Sacsayhuaman
 5. Qenqo
 6. Tambomachay

DAY 02

Cusco – Qorao – Pisac Market – Pisac Archaeological Site – Urubamba – Ollantaytambo Archaeological Site – Chinchero – Cusco

Tour the Amazing Sacred Valley of the Incas

Today, you will have the opportunity to visit some of the most beautiful and historically rich towns of the Sacred Valley of the Incas. We begin the day by picking you up from your hotel in Cusco at 8:30 a.m. and heading toward the town of Pisac. Before reaching Pisac, we will stop at both the Qorao and Taray lookouts, so you can admire the Sacred Valley's beauty from afar and take pictures.

Once in Pisac, we will visit both Pisac archaeological site and its famous traditional market. Then, we will drive to the town of Urubamba for lunch, where you will enjoy a delicious buffet lunch of traditional Peruvian dishes.

Continuing, we will drive to the classic Inca town of Ollantaytambo and visit its unique archaeological site with its royal sources of water, high terraces,



temples, etc., surrounded by towering mountain peaks and colorful valleys plus the view of the faraway Veronica glacier.

Ollantaytambo is the most well-preserved layout of a typical, Inca-built city with its narrow, cobbled streets and stone walls. Its conservation allows for the enduring legacy of the Incan people to live on for us today.

To finish our day, we will visit Chinchero and meet some of the town's talented women in a textile-making presentation. The Cusco region is known for its superb, colorful textiles, and here you will learn how each color of wool is naturally dyed, how the intricate cloths are woven, and the symbolism held by the traditional designs you find in their beautiful creations. Here, you will also visit an archeological site and a colonial church.

After your tour, you will be brought back to Cusco and dropped off at your hotel at 6:45 pm to rest up for tomorrow's exciting activities!



DAY FACTS

» MEALS:
Lunch

» DIFFICULTY:
Easy

» MINIMUM ELEVATION:
2,792 m / 9,160 ft

» HIGHEST ELEVATION:
3,762 m / 12,343 ft

1. Pisac Archaeological Center
2. Pisac Handicraft Market
3. Panoramic view of the Sacred Valley
4. Archaeological Center of Ollantaytambo
5. Archaeological Center of Ollantaytambo
6. Chinchero

DAY 03

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

Hike to the Jewel in the Mountains – The Stunning Humantay Lake

Get ready for an early start today, as we'll be picking you up around 4:00 a.m. to begin your adventure. Don't worry though, our comfortable transportation comes with blankets so you can catch a bit more sleep during the 2-hour drive. We'll make a quick stop in Mollepata for breakfast (optional) before continuing on to Challacancha, where we'll begin our hike.

Before hitting the trail, you'll have a chance to meet the cooks and horsemen and do a final equipment check. Then, we'll start the 3-hour moderate hike to Soraypampa (3,900 m / 12,795 ft), where we'll spend our first night. The trail starts relatively flat, passing through a deep valley of glaciers and following a restored Inca water channel still used by local farmers. The section is 7 km / 4.35 mi overall.

Upon arriving at Soraypampa, you'll get settled in at our exclusive Sky Camp and enjoy your first lunch in the mountains. After some rest, we'll hike up to the stunning Humantay Lake (4,200 m / 13,780 ft), which



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takes about 3 hours round trip and covers 3 km / 1.86 mi. Although not far, taking things slowly at this altitude is important. At the lake, you'll be mesmerized by the turquoise waters reflecting the Humantay glacier - a view straight out of a fairy tale!

After returning to camp, you'll have a delicious dinner while watching the sunset. You'll feel the peaceful energy of the surroundings as you settle into your Sky Camp igloo. The glass roof provides a perfect view of the stars, constellations, and comets. And when you wake up, you'll see the majestic 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
- » Dining room and kitchen
- » Toilets and cold shower
- » **Optional:**
 - Wi-Fi



DAY FACTS

- » MEALS:
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

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

DAY 04

Soraypampa – Salkantay Pass –
Wayracmachay –
Collpapampa (Mountain Sky View)

Defeat the Trek to the Salkantay Pass and Descend Through the Cloud Forest

Waking up with the first rays of the sun, we await you with a hot cup of coca tea. Then, we will enjoy one of our nutritious and delicious breakfasts before starting the hike to the highest point of the entire route, the Salkantay Pass (4,630 m / 15,190 ft). This part of the hike is a difficult ascent on a winding trail, takes approximately three hours, and has a distance of 7 km / 4.34 miles.

Once you reach the top, you will be able to appreciate the most spectacular view of the valleys surrounding the Salkantay mountain located in front of you (6,271 m / 20,574 ft); it is considered the second highest peak in all of Cusco and is known as one of the Inca gods called Apus. You will also enjoy incredible panoramas of the mountains: Humantay, Tucurhuay, and Pumasillo. After taking in the views and recovering your energy, we will descend on a 6 km / 3.72-mile hike along a rocky trail to our lunch



spot at Wayracmachay (3,850 m / 12,631 ft). While enjoying a delicious lunch prepared by our chef, you will appreciate the beautiful scenery of the area.

Afterward, we will resume our hike to descend into the valley. This section is 8 km / 4.97 miles and will take us about three hours to complete. As we go on, you will notice that the climate changes drastically because of the "cloud forest"; from this point, we will say goodbye to the snowy peaks of the mountains, and we will head to the Peruvian Amazon jungle. In this place, you can observe impressive wildlife unique to the area and many colorful landscapes. You will find it amazing that a few hours earlier you were in the middle of snow-capped glaciers, as the weather will also become much warmer here.

Your longest day of hiking ends when you arrive at our Mountain Sky View camp for the night at Collpapampa (2,950 m / 9,678 ft). You will enjoy a well-deserved and hearty dinner before going to rest in your cabin.

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 Cold Shower
- » **Optional:**
 - Wi-Fi
 - Warm shower



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 05

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 then breakfast before setting off from the campsite. Our first destination will be La Playa, and we'll be 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 main agricultural industry in the jungle that exports products to the United States, Asia, and all of Europe. You will also visit avocado and orange plantations.

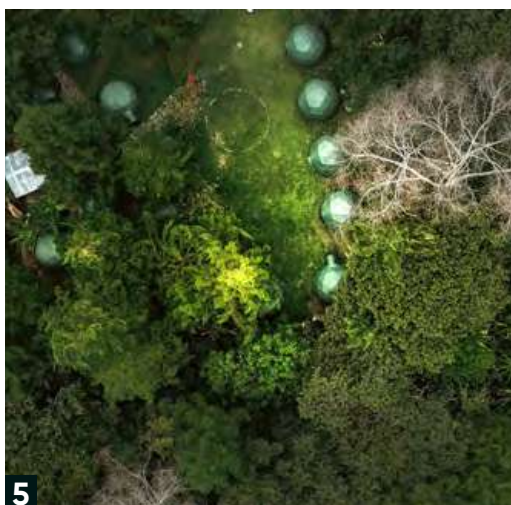
After dinner, of course, you will go to bed for the night in one of our exclusive camps, Jungle Domes. While resting, you can listen to the different sounds of nature and feel in harmony with mother earth.



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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



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DAY FACTS

- » MEALS:
Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner
- » ACCOMMODATION:
Jungle Domes
- » DIFFICULTY:
Moderate
- » WALKING DISTANCE:
18 km / 11.18 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 06

Lucmabamba – Llactapata – Aobamba –
Hidroeléctrica – Aguas Calientes

Explore Inca Sites and Catch a Glimpse of Machu Picchu

Like previous mornings, the trek guide will wake you up early with a hot cup of coca tea served in your dome. After enjoying your last breakfast prepared by the talented trek chef, you will get ready for the day's activities. We will start the hike early, allowing you to experience a small part of the famous Inca trail.

After a climb of 3 hours with amazing views of the Santa Teresa valley, we will arrive at the Llactapata Inca site (2,700 m / 8,858 ft) right in front of Machu Picchu. This exceptional location is the perfect place to learn about the land's roots and history. Our guide will take you on a tour of the site, providing insight into how the Incas used and worshipped the land. From this spot, you can see the Inca City of Machu Picchu, as well as Huayna Picchu and Machu Picchu Mountain. You will have plenty of time to take photos and capture memories to share with your loved ones back home.

After exploring Llactapata, we will continue our trek for 1.5 hours downhill to Aobamba for lunch. Then, we will continue our way to our next featured spot in the hike, the Hidroelectrica train station (1,800 m / 5,906 ft). One of the most impressive sites in this area is the 250-meter-tall artificial waterfall, which generates electricity for the entire city of Cusco.

If you feel exhausted, you can take a train from Hidroelectrica to Aguas Calientes (not included,



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US\$ 37.00). Otherwise, we will continue our walk from Hidroeléctrica to Aguas Calientes for about three hours along the train track. A few minutes ahead of Hidroeléctrica, we will arrive at Intihuatana, a famous ancient rock used as a ceremonial table in the Inca era. The people used this stone, together with the famous Intihuatana in Machu Picchu, to measure and read the winter solstice, which marked the beginning of the new farming season for the Incas.

Next to the railroad, there is a beautiful path through the warm paradise of the cloud forest, the same trail used by American professor Hiram Bingham who rediscovered Machu Picchu after centuries of it being lost to the outside world. After three hours of walking, we will arrive at Aguas Calientes town, where we will head first to our hotel. Your room will have a private bathroom, hot shower, Wi-Fi, breakfast in the morning, and luggage storage while you visit Machu Picchu. You can rest before dinner or explore this peaceful town. There are no cars in Aguas Calientes, giving it a calm and serene atmosphere.

At 7:00 p.m., we will have dinner at a local restaurant and organize everything for the highlight of our adventure: Machu Picchu!

Note: During the rainy season, the hike up the Llaqtapata Trail is not 100% guaranteed due to safety concerns. When heavy rains are frequent, this trail becomes 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
- » Dining room and kitchen
- » Toilets and warm showers
- » Wi-Fi



DAY FACTS

- » MEALS:
Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner
- » ACCOMMODATION:
Comfortable 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 Llaqtapata viewpoint
2. Archaeological site of Llaqtapata
3. Bridge over the Amazon forest in Aobamba.
4. Aguas Calientes
5. Hotel in Aguas Calientes
6. Comfortable rooms

DAY 07

Aguas Calientes – Machu Picchu –
Ollantaytambo – Cusco

Visit the Magical, Mystical Machu Picchu

Today we will finally visit Machu Picchu – one of the New 7 Wonders of the World and a UNESCO World Heritage Site! Rise early after a refreshing night at our hostel to enjoy the serenity of Machu Picchu in the soft morning light before the crowds arrive. The Machu Picchu entrance checkpoint opens from 6:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

In the morning, we'll board the bus to Machu Picchu and be among the first to enter the royal city of the Incas. Our expert guide will lead us on a fascinating 2-hour tour through this wonderful ancient site, where we'll see temples, terraces, palaces, priests' houses, cultivated fields, and much more. Marvel at the remarkable engineering talent of the Incas, who were so advanced for their time, and whose techniques still leave us in awe today.

Despite lacking modern tools, steel, and iron, the Incas were geniuses in organizing this community sustainably and beautifully on the side of a mountain.



They even brought water in canals and aqueducts through its streets for the people to use. When a Peruvian guide showed this site to Hiram Bingham, it was almost unrecognizable, covered in thick vegetation and a state of disrepair. Today, it has been cleaned and restored and is now protected and treasured by the world.

After the guided tour, you can climb Huayna Picchu Mountain (2,720 m / 8,924 ft) or Machu Picchu Mountain (3,000 m / 9,843 ft); these tours will take you an hour and a half and three hours between ascent and descent, respectively. Make sure you reserve your tickets in advance.

After basking in the magic of this citadel, we'll return to the town of Aguas Calientes to take the train to Ollantaytambo. Our private transportation will then take you back to your hotel in Cusco, where you can rest your feet and body. We assure you that your heart will still soar for weeks and years!



DAY FACTS

» MEALS:

Breakfast

» DIFFICULTY:

Easy

» ACTIVITY DURATION:

2 - 5 hours exploring

» MACHU PICCHU CITADEL

ELEVATION:

2,430 m / 7,972 ft

» MACHU PICCHU MOUNTAIN

ELEVATION:

3,000 m / 9,843 ft

» HUAYNA PICCHU MOUNTAIN

ELEVATION:

2,720 m / 8,924 ft

» OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Moderate to Challenging

(2 - 4 hours)

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

DAY 08

Cusco | Cusipata - Llacto - Peru's Rainbow Mountain, Vinicunca - Llacto - Cusco

Hike to the Mountain of Seven Colors: Vinicunca

Our final day of adventure begins at 4:00 am. We'll pick you up from your hotel and head towards the Southern Valley for a three-hour journey in our private transport. Remember, our walk starts at 4,630m / 15,190 ft, but you should now be accustomed to the altitude. Along the way, we will observe picturesque Andean towns, agricultural platforms from the Inca period, fertile valleys, and beautiful rolling mountains. Even at this early hour, herds of llamas and alpacas will entertain you while you enjoy a delicious continental breakfast to give you the energy you need to get started.

We will continue our journey until we reach the hike's starting point. From there, we will head down a meandering path in the Andean mountains, following a pretty stream. As you ascend, you will be rewarded with an impressive view of the Ausangate glacier (6,372m / 20,905 ft), the tallest in the Cusco region. Take a few minutes to understand why this mountain is so important to the Andean people. This whole region is home to many people and small communities, and you will have the opportunity to see them working the land. You will be amazed to see the traditional clothing they use that they make themselves, thanks to the practice of textile art that they have inherited from their ancestors. The colorful patterns on their garments are similar to those of Vinicunca mountain.



By keeping these traditions alive, ancient culture is preserved. Your guide will teach you about the meaning of some clothes and, if you want, you can ask him to teach you some words in Quechua—the language of the Incas and local communities to this day. After walking an hour and a half, we will reach the amazing Rainbow Mountain of Cusco (5,100m / 16,732 ft).

While at the top, take some time to admire the unique beauty of this impressive natural formation and feel the thrill of witnessing a unique natural spectacle that can only be seen in Peru and China. You will explore the surroundings for a while, and your knowledgeable guide will explain the theories regarding the origin of this mountain that appears as though it's been taken from a colorful dream. Take memorable photographs or simply immerse yourself in the landscape that also boasts the splendor of the great mountain Ausangate in the distance. There, we will take a break between 30 minutes and 1 hour, depending on the speed of your steps and the weather condition. If you want to stay longer, inform your guide. You will have time to enjoy the surroundings and recuperate your energy for the hike back down.

Returning to where we started will take 45 minutes and an hour. Then, we will go to Cusipata by car to enjoy our well-deserved lunch. We will then board our private transport back to the city of Cusco. At approximately 5:00 pm, we will drop you off at the door of your hotel, and you can enjoy a relaxing evening as you please.



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DAY FACTS

- » MEALS:
Breakfast and Lunch
- » ACCOMMODATION:
Hotel
- » DIFFICULTY:
Moderate
- » WALKING DISTANCE:
7 km / 4.35 mi
- » WALKING TIME:
2 - 3 hours
- » MINIMUM ELEVATION:
4,630 m / 15,190 ft
- » HIGHEST ELEVATION:
5,100 m / 16,732 ft
- » ACCOMMODATION
ELEVATION:
3,400 m / 11,155 ft

-
1. Rainbow Mountain
 2. Rainbow Mountain
 3. Alpacas in Rainbow Mountain
 4. Snow-capped mountains on the descent route
 5. Snow-capped mountains on the descent route
 6. Descent to Llacto

DAY 09

Cusco – Cusco's Airport (or Bus Station)

Say Goodbye to Imperial Cusco

Today, you'll wake up, have breakfast, and pack your bags, as it's time to say goodbye to the imperial city of Cusco for now. We'll organize a time to collect you and take you to the airport or bus station to continue your vacation or head back home.

This isn't a forever farewell, and we're sure you'll be longing to come back to relive all the special moments, learn more about the ancient city and cultures, and try out more of the excellent restaurants and their delicious cuisine. So, it's not goodbye, but rather see you soon!



INCLUSIONS



WHAT IS INCLUDED?

» Permits & Entrance Tickets

- Entrance Ticket to Salkantay Trek
- Entrance Ticket to Machu Picchu Archaeological Site (Circuit 2)
- Entry to the Rainbow Mountain

» High Quality Service & Safety

- Pre-departure briefing

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

- Day 1: City Tour Half Day
- Day 2: Sacred Valley Tour Full Day Tour
- Day 3 - 7: Salkantay Trek to Machu Picchu
- Day 8: Rainbow Mountain trek
- Day 9: Transfer to the Airport
- Experienced Guide

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

- Private Camping Equipment

We have dining rooms and a kitchen on each campsite. In addition, all our equipment, like tables, chairs, cooking equipment, etc., will be carried by our horses.

- One Duffle Bag

There, you can carry your personal belongings up to a maximum weight of 7 kg / 15 lbs (this weight includes your sleeping bag).

- Sleeping Bag (for Salkantay Trek)

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.

- Trekking Poles with rubber tips (for Salkantay Trek)
- Medical Kit or First Aid Kit

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

- Extras included in our service

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

- 24/7 Customer Service

We have telephone service available 24 hours a day for ease of communication and preparation with the agency leading up to your trek.

- Satellite phones

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

» Accommodation

- Personal Accommodation in Private Campsites

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



Sky Camp



Mountain Sky View



Jungle Domes

- **Hotel in Aguas Calientes (day 6)**

The six night of this trek is spent in a hotel in Aguas Calientes with a double or triple room, private bathroom, hot shower, WiFi, breakfast, and luggage storage while you visit Machu Picchu.

- **Hotel in Cusco (day 1, 2, 7 and 8)**

The hotel in the city of Cusco, with a room with private bathroom, hot shower, WiFi and luggage storage.

» Meals

- **Meals in Cusco**

- Day 2, and 9: Breakfast at your hotel in Cusco
- Day 2: Buffet Lunch in the Sacred Valley Tour

- **Meals on the Salkantay Trek: 4 Breakfasts, 4 Lunches, and 4 Dinners**
Meals on the Rainbow Mountain: Breakfast and Lunch at local restaurants

Our chef prepares the most amazing 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**

During the Salkantay trek, we will provide you with boiled, filtered and refrigerated water during your trek, from your lunch in Soraypampa to your breakfast in Lucmabamba. For this, it is necessary to carry an empty water bottle or camel bag (backpack litera), we recommend a capacity of 2 liters.

We'll provide you with a bottle of water to climb the Rainbow Mountain.

- **Wake up tea**

Every morning at the campsite, you'll be woken up with a cup of coca tea. Our staff will bring the tea to your bed so that you're warmed from the inside out before you start your day.

- **Tea Time or Happy Hour**

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

- **Snacks on the trail daily**

Every morning we'll give you snacks so you can enjoy them during the walk. Your tour leader will provide you a cloth bag with local fruits, biscuits, chocolate, caramels, etc., at the beginning of each day.

- **One cloth snack bag per person**

To avoid the usage of plastic bags that contaminate our environment, we will 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

- **Transport**

- Day 1: A Salkantay Trekking representative will be waiting for you at the Cusco airport or bus station to take you directly to your hotel.
- Day 1: Transportation for the City Tour in Cusco (after lunch).
- Day 2: Transportation for the Sacred Valley tour.
- Day 3: In the morning, you will be picked up at your hotel and travel by private transportation to Challacancha, the starting point of the trek.
- Day 7: Transportation from Ollantaytambo train station to your hotel in Cusco.
- Day 8: In the morning, you will be picked up at your hotel and travel by private transportation to the starting point of the trek. Later, transportation will be waiting to take you back to the door of your hotel in Cusco.
- Day 9: Private transfer from your hotel in Cusco to the airport or bus station.

- **Train Ticket from Aguas Calientes to Ollantaytambo (Day 7)**

- **One Way Consettur Bus Ticket from Aguas Calientes to Machu Picchu (Day 7)**

- **Personal Belongings Transportation**

During the Salkantay trek, on days 3, 4, and 5, cargo mules will carry all the camping equipment and your baggage allowance (7 kg / 15.4 lb). Muleteers will be responsible for your duffle bag and personal items.

On day 6, your duffle bag will be transported by car, then by train.

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED?

» Cusco Tourist Ticket

This ticket is necessary and allows you admission to many of the most popular attractions in Cusco and the Sacred Valley, including archaeological sites and museums. (applies to Day 1 and 2).

- From PEN 130.00 (US\$ 40.00) per person.

» Cusco's Cathedral Entrance Ticket

- Adult: PEN 40.00 (US\$ 12.00)
- Students and Children (11-17): PEN 20.00 (US\$ 6.00)
- Children (under 10): Free

» Qorikancha Entrance Ticket

- PEN 10.00 per person

» Huayna Picchu Mountain

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

- The ticket for Huayna Picchu Mountain costs US\$ 60.00 per person.

» Machu Picchu Mountain

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

- The ticket for Machu Picchu Mountain costs US\$ 60.00 per person.

» Meals

- Day 1: Breakfast, Lunch and dinner
- Day 2: Dinner
- Day 3: Breakfast
- Day 7: Lunch and dinner
- Day 8: Dinner

» Train from Hidroelectrica to Aguas Calientes (Day 6)

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\$ 37.00 per person.

» Personal Clothing and Gear

» 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 their hard work. Typically, group participants collect their tips to hand out to the horsemen and chefs together.

» Additional costs or delays beyond our control

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

BEFORE YOU GO

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

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

» Is it for me?

The Salkantay Trek to Machu Picchu is an excellent alternative for 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) is not too strenuous nor very steep since it is 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.

» 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

The evening before you start your trek, we will provide you with a duffel bag to pack your clothes for the 6 days. Your weight allowance is up to 7 kg / 15.4 lb. Our horses

will carry your duffel 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 duffel 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, your main luggage can be stored at our office (you can organize it with us on the briefing day or by email) or at your hotel, both free of charge.

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

» Pick up of guests

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

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

» Return to Cusco

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

- In Machu Picchu, you'll board a bus that'll take you for 25 minutes to the small city of Aguas Calientes. The buses are boarded according to arrival.
- In Aguas Calientes, you'll board a train to Ollantaytambo. Your guide will give you the train tickets where the boarding time will be shown. Make sure you're on the platform

30 minutes early. The train from Aguas Calientes to Ollantaytambo takes 1:45 hours.

- Once you arrive at the station, our representative, identified with the Salkantay Trekking clothing, will be waiting to transfer you to Cusco or directly to your hotel. The trip from Ollantaytambo to Cusco takes 1:30 hours.
- In Cusco, depending on your hotel's location, we'll take you to a smaller car from our company (Hyundai H1) to transfer you faster to your hotel.

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

» Group Tours

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

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

» Strikes and demonstrations

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

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

» Lost objects

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



WHAT SHOULD YOU BRING?

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



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



**Salkantay**
TREKKING
Treks & Expeditions Specialists

www.salkantaytrekking.com



info@salkantaytrekking.com



+51 958 191 179



Triunfo Street 346
Main Square Cusco



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