

INCA TRAIL TO MACHU PICCHU
(2 days / 1 night)



This trip lets you enjoy the Inca Trail, one of the most famous treks in the world. It follows an ancient Inca pathway road built by the Incas 500 years ago. Wandering in the footsteps of Hiram Bingham, the discoverer of Machu Picchu, the Inca Trail will unfold its striking beauty of diverse changing ecological zones and impressive ancient archeological sites appearing out of nothing along the way. And finally, you will arrive at the Machu Picchu, a breathtaking construction melded perfectly into the steep hills of the 'Old Mountain'. But not only counts this final highlight, for the Inca Trail applies the saying 'The journey is the reward'.

Minimum: 2 // Maximum: 12

Since the park authorities only allow **500 people** (about 200 tourists and 300 trekking staff) **to enter the Inca Trail** network for any given day, it is important to book well in advance (**at least 3 months in advance**).

Trek permits are sold on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations have to be submitted to National Institute for Cultural Affairs in Cusco. Bookings are only accepted by the authorities when

- full names
- citizenship
- date of birth and
- passport numbers of passengers are provided.

To maintain the confirmation of trek permit, a **pre-payment is needed**. The **reimbursement of payment is not possible** under any circumstance. This measure was introduced to avoid irregularities and unfair competition among Inca Trail operators.

Please take note that the **authorities in Cusco do not accept changes in names or passport numbers**. In case you get a new passport number (different to the one you gave us for confirmation) you need to show your old passport to the authorities in the control station in the start of the trail. Should it not be possible to take your old passport with you, **only a notarized copy** will be accepted by the authorities controlling the access to Inca Trail.

Average trekking duration: 5 hours hike (13 km in total)

Altitude: the highest point on the trek is 2,150m (8,200 ft)

Season: January to December

Grade: moderate

DAY 1 CUSCO - KM.104 – AGUAS CALIENTES (BoxL)

We take the train from Cusco or Ollantaytambo, following the Urubamba River to Km.104 of the railroad the starting point of the trek. We begin our hike at the Inca site of Chachabamba (2,150 m/ 7,054 ft). After a brief visit to this lovely archaeological complex with its water channels and fountains, we start a four-hour ascent (8 km). The walk offers some very beautiful views, with the Inca site of Choquesuysuy, the great Urubamba River valley and a lovely waterfall near the delightful site of Wiñay Wayna (Forever Young). We ascend through this largest and most exquisite of the Inca Trail sites, passing its chain of ritual baths and elegantly curved terracing, and then joining the main Inca trail. In the afternoon, we follow the last stretch of trail to finally reach Inti Punku, the Gate of the Sun, for a stunning view of the magnificent citadel. Descend into the valley to Aguas Calientes for an overnight in a local hotel.

DAY 2 AGUAS CALIENTES – CUSCO (B)

We pick you up early from your hotel to take a small coach that brings us up the steep roads to the entrance of the citadel. Machu Picchu remained for centuries undiscovered by the Spaniards, only to be found in 1911 by Hiram Bingham. The uniqueness of its location and the genius that went into its construction make this Inca archaeological site truly one of the great wonders of the world.

In the afternoon you will board the train back to Cusco, where you will be gathered and transferred to your hotel.

NET PRICE PER PERSON IN USD	MIN 2
SIC Services	460
Additional cost for Vistadome Train (RT)	63

SERVICES INCLUDED

- Transfer from hotel in Cusco - train station - hotel in Cusco
- Train ticket Cusco– Km 104 & Machu Picchu–Cusco in the available class
- Entrance fees for the Inca Trail and Machu Picchu
- Experienced English speaking guide
- Meals (1Box Lunch and 1 breakfast at the hotel)
- Comprehensive first-aid kit including oxygen bottles
- Bus ticket Aguas Calientes – Machu Picchu – Aguas Calientes (on DAY 2)
- Bus ticket from Machu Picchu to Aguas Calientes town (on DAY 1)

SERVICES NOT INCLUDED

- Accommodation in Aguas Calientes (can be arranged at additional cost depending on the selected hotel category)
- Lunch and Dinner (on DAY 2)
- Tips

WHAT TO BRING

- **Original passport**
- Backpack, rain jacket or poncho
- Trekking shoes
- Warm clothes (jacket, fleece and sweaters)
- Water bottle
- Hat or cap to protect you from the sun, rain or cold
- Sun block and insect repellent (minimum recommended 20% DEET)
- Sunglasses
- Snacks: biscuits, energy bars, chocolate, etc.
- Swimsuit (if you plan on visiting the hot springs at Aguas Calientes after the trek)
- Cash (no ATM machines in Aguas Calientes)
- Walking sticks or poles rubber covers required in order to avoid damage of the Inca Trail)

INCA TRAIL TO MACHU PICCHU
(4 days / 3 nights)

SIC SERVICES



This trip lets you enjoy the Inca Trail, one of the most famous treks in the world. It follows an ancient Inca pathway road built by the Incas 500 years ago. Wandering in the footsteps of Hiram Bingham, the discoverer of Machu Picchu, the Inca Trail will unfold its striking beauty of diverse changing ecological zones and impressive ancient archeological sites appearing out of nothing along the way. And finally, you will arrive at the Machu Picchu, a breathtaking construction melded perfectly into the steep hills of the 'Old Mountain'. But not only counts this final highlight, for the Inca Trail applies the saying 'The journey is the reward'.

Daily departures min. 2 pax

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Average trekking duration: 6 to 7 hours per day with several long ascents and descents

Altitude: the highest point on the trek is 4,200m (13,776ft) but we will camp below that level

Season: from March to December (alternative route in February)

Grade: moderate

DAY 1 CUSCO – PISKAKUCHO – WAYLLABAMBA (L,D)

A spectacular early morning drive through the Sacred Valley of the Incas takes us to our trailhead at Km. 82 of the Machu Picchu railroad. After getting acquainted with our trail crew we set out, crossing a footbridge to hike a gentle two hours down the Urubamba canyon, and to then ascend and finally see, from the tallest part of an overlook, the impressive Inca site of Llactapata (2,650 m / 8,692 ft) on the banks of the Cusichaca side river. We then climb a short way up the Cusichaca valley to Wayllabamba, the last inhabited village on the trail, where we camp.

Distance: 12 km (7,47 miles)
Walking time: 5-6 hours
Max. altitude: 3,000 m (9,840 ft)
Campsite altitude: 3,000 m (9,840 ft)

DAY 2 WAYLLABAMBA – PACAYMAYO (B,L,D)

We climb the steep-sided Llullucha valley past a rushing stream and through enchanted native polylepis woodland. Crossing the rim of a small plateau, we abruptly find ourselves in the puna, the treeless grasslands of the high Andes. The trail traverses an open slope opposite mighty mountain crags as we ascend to the first and highest pass Wamiwaniusca (4,200m/13,776ft). Here we encounter spectacular views of the trail ahead to the second pass, and look back to the sweeping snow-capped peaks and valleys of the Huayanay massif. Note the diversity of wild flora and fauna that can be found all along the valley. The trail descends to the floor of the forested Pacaymayo valley (3,600m /11,811ft), where we set camp.

Distance: 11 km (6,84 miles)
Walking time: 6-7 hours
Max. altitude: 4,200 m (13,776 ft)
Campsite altitude: 3,500 m (11,480 ft)

DAY 3 PACAYMAYO – WIÑAY WAYNA (B,L,D)

This day is the longest but also the most impressive, due to the number of archaeological sites that we visit and learn about from our guide. We pick up an Inca stairway and ascend again past the small Inca site of Runkuracay (3,800 m /12,460 ft). As we reach the second pass (3,970 m /13,024 ft), the landscape opens onto spectacular new views to the snow-capped peaks of the Pumasillo range. We descend to the ruins of Sayacmarca

(Inaccessible Town), an intricate labyrinth of houses, plazas and water channels, perched precariously on a rocky spur overlooking the Aobamba valley.

The Inca trail, now a massive structure of granite paving stones, continues along the steep upper fringes of the cloud forest through a colorful riot of orchids, bromeliads, mosses and ferns. At the third pass pinnacles topped with Inca viewing platforms overlook the archaeological complex of Phuyupatamarca (Town over the Clouds, 3,700 m/12,136 ft). Pausing to explore the wondrous maze of Inca stone towers, fountains and stairways and also impressive views of the Urubamba River (2,700m/ 8,860 ft), we begin a long descent through ever-changing layers of cloud forest.

An Inca stairway partly cut from living granite leads us finally to our camp by the ruins of Wiñay Wayna (Forever Young), the largest and most exquisite of the Inca Trail sites.

Distance: 16 km (9.94 miles)
 Walking time: 8 hours
 Max. altitude: 3,900 m (12,792 ft)
 Campsite altitude: 2,650 m (8,692 ft)

DAY 4 WIÑAY WAYNA – MACHU PICCHU – CUSCO (B)

An early morning hike takes us across a steep mountainside through lush, humid cloud-forest and broadleaf vegetation. Suddenly we cross the stone threshold of Intipunku (Sun Gate) and encounter an unforgettable sweep of natural beauty and human artistry –a backdrop of twisting gorge and forested peaks framing the magical city of Machu Picchu.

We complete the final leg down the royal flagstone walkway, past outlying shrines and buildings and into the heart of Machu Picchu, where we spend the rest of the morning with a guided tour of the highlights and some individual exploring among Machu Picchu’s multitude of hidden nooks and corners. In the early afternoon a bus takes us to the small town of Aguas Calientes, where we board our return train to Cusco.

Distance: 4 km (2.49 miles)
 Walking time: 2 hours
 Max. altitude: 2,700 m (8,829 ft)
 Campsite altitude: 2,400 m (7,872 ft)

Note: park authorities may occasionally designate different campsites than those indicated in this itinerary.

NET PRICE PER PERSON IN USD	MIN 2
SIC Services	556
Additional cost for extra porter (39 pounds approx.)	208
Additional cost for return in Vistadome Train	32

SERVICES INCLUDED

- Transportation from Cusco to the start of the trail for Inca Trail Classic
- Entrance fees for the Inca Trail and Machu Picchu
- Four-seasons Alpina Doite tents: 4-person expedition tent for DOUBLE occupancy to offer more comfort and enough space for backpacks
- Sleeping foam pad
- Dining tent with tables and chairs
- Kitchen tent
- Portable toilet
- Experienced English speaking guide
- Cook and cooking equipment
- Porters (to carry tents, food and cooking equipment)
- Meals mentioned in the itinerary: B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner) as well as 4 snacks
- Boiled water during the mornings to refill water bottle
- Comprehensive first-aid kit including oxygen bottles
- Bus ticket from Machu Picchu to Aguas Calientes town

- Train ticket (Expedition class) from Aguas Calientes to Cusco
- Transfer from the train station to your hotel

SERVICES NOT INCLUDED

- Lunch and inner the last day
- Sleeping bag
- Tips

ADDITIONAL SERVICES AT EXTRA COST

- An extra hotel night in Aguas Calientes can be arranged at additional cost (depending on the selected hotel category)

WHAT TO BRING

- Original passport
- Backpack
- Rain jacket or poncho
- Trekking shoes
- Warm clothes (jacket, fleece and sweaters)
- Water bottle
- Flashlight and batteries
- Hat or cap to protect you from the sun, rain or cold
- Sun block and insect repellent
- Towel and toilet paper
- Snacks: biscuits, energy bars, chocolate, etc.
- Cash (no ATM machines in Aguas Calientes)
- Swimsuit (if you plan on visiting the hot springs at Aguas Calientes after the trek)
- Walking sticks or poles (rubber covers required in order to avoid damage of the Inca Trail)