

# INCA TRAIL

## 4 Days



To:

Date:

## WELCOME TO CUSCO!

Cusco is the most visited tourist destination in Peru and one of the best in all of South America. Here, you can find attractions as famous as the Sacred Valley of the Incas, Humantay Lake, the Rainbow Mountain, and, of course, Machu Picchu, a destination considered one of the New 7 Wonders of the World.

**Cusco boasts stunning Andean and tropical landscapes. Most visitors stay in the city of Cusco because it houses the main airport of the region.** Additionally, in the "capital of the Inca Empire," there are significant tourist attractions such as Sacsayhuamán, the Cathedral, and the Qoricancha. Today, the best hotels and restaurants are also located here.

About 100 kilometers from the city of Cusco lies the best tourist destination in South America: the Inca city of Machu Picchu. This wonder of the world is the main goal of almost all tourists who arrive in Cusco. Machu Picchu was an Inca citadel with agricultural, urban, and religious purposes. It has a history dating back more than five centuries. Moreover, the lush landscape surrounding it makes it one of the most photographed places in the world.

However, Cusco is not just about Machu Picchu. In the high Cusco mountains, near the imposing Ausangate snow peak, lies Vinicunca, the famous Rainbow Mountain. This peak stands at over 5,000 meters above sea level. Thousands of visitors flock there daily, making this colorful mountain the second most visited tourist destination in Cusco, only after Machu Picchu.

**And Cusco offers so much more. Here, you can find breathtaking landscapes, archaeological sites, hot springs, unforgettable hikes, and much more.** Some lesser-known destinations that are well worth visiting include Palcoyo Mountain, the Southern Valley of Cusco, Waqrapukara Fortress, the Tres Cruces de Oro viewpoint, the Abode of the Gods, the Cocalmayo hot springs, and more. Discover them!

All these tourist destinations can be visited independently or with a tour organized by a travel agency. Of course, the safest and most reliable option is to go through a Cusco-based tourism agency. Most travel agencies offer a well-organized and comprehensive service to enjoy the best of Cusco.

The most popular tours in Cusco are: the City Tour (through the city of Cusco), the Sacred Valley of the Incas tour (Full Day), the Rainbow Mountain tour (Full Day), the Humantay Lake tour (Full Day), the Maras and Moray tour (Half Day), the Machu Picchu tour (Full Day), the 2-day Machu Picchu tour, the 4-day Inca Trail, and the 5-day Salkantay trek.

All these services are carried out with the best organization. We have a team of tourism experts who plan every detail of our services. All our tours include: tourist pickup, full round-trip transportation, entry tickets to each attraction, and professional tour guide service. You won't have to buy anything else!

The tourist attractions in Cusco are exceptional. However, there are many other tourist destinations in Peru worth visiting. Soon, we will offer tours to all the destinations in the Inca nation: the Colca Canyon, Paracas, the city of Lima, the Huacachina oasis, the Amazon rainforest, and more.

**Here, you can learn about the tours offered by 'Machupicchu Terra,' one of the leading travel agencies in Cusco.** You will find information about what's included, itineraries, prices, and more. Get ready to explore Cusco with the best! Welcome!

## ABOUT US

Welcome to Machupicchu Terra! We are a tourism agency recognized for the quality of our tours to all destinations in Cusco, such as the Sacred Valley, Rainbow Mountain, Machu Picchu, and much more. Since 2013, we have been offering quality services to tourists from around the world.

We have our own location in the historic center of Cusco at Recoleta Angosta 604 Street. To operate our various services, we are authorized by the Ministry of Culture of Peru with authorization code AUT00115. In other words, we are a professional tourism agency offering the safety and excellent organization of a legitimate service.

To connect with our travelers, we maintain various well-designed websites that provide all the information about Cusco and Machu Picchu. These include **[www.boletomachupicchu.com](http://www.boletomachupicchu.com), [www.machupicchuterra.com](http://www.machupicchuterra.com), [www.imachupicchu.com](http://www.imachupicchu.com), and more.**

Our operations are carried out by a team of tourism professionals, along with collaborators specializing in web systems programming, content writing, video editing, and more. All our services are meticulously organized to meet the expectations of our clients.

### Mission

Our primary mission is to provide tourists with a quality service that meets their high expectations for the various tourist attractions in Cusco and Peru.

To achieve this, we aim to create a user-friendly website with comprehensive information about traveling to Cusco, the Sacred Valley of the Incas, and Machu Picchu. Our goal is to provide a secure and easy interface for booking our tours. Additionally, we seek to assist tourists with information on prices, schedules, required documents, and everything related to traveling to Machu Picchu.

### Vision

We aim to offer the best tourism services in Cusco and throughout Peru. To achieve this, we continuously update our offerings with new tourism proposals. We also utilize the latest web technologies to reach more clients. For instance, we have a YouTube channel, "Imachupicchu," featuring educational videos that help travelers plan their best experience in Cusco.

Every day, we strive to improve and offer the best tourism services to our clients. We maintain constant communication through various digital channels. Our goal is to become the most serious and well-organized tourism agency in Cusco and Peru.

### Reliability

We are a legitimate tourism agency in Cusco authorized by the Ministry of Culture of Peru and the Regional Directorate of Culture in Cusco. Our authorization code is AUT00115. All our operations and services are legitimate. We have positive reviews on online forums like TripAdvisor, Google Business, and more.

All our payment methods are secured through internet systems that guarantee the privacy of all tourist information during the purchase process. With us, you can feel confident choosing a legal and reliable tourism agency!

## INCA TRAIL 4 DAYS TOUR – THE BEST HIKE IN PERU!

### SUMMARY

The Inca Trail tour 4 days to Machu Picchu is the most adventurous and exciting way to discover the Inca civilization through original Inca paths, the famous qhapac ñan. On the route, you can also see Inca archaeological sites in the provinces of Phuyupatamarca and Wiñayhuayna. The Inca Trail tour includes: pick up from the hotel, transportation (Expedition service), permission to enter the Inca trails, professional tour guide service, porter service (porters carry your backpacks on their shoulders), the cooks (three breakfasts, three lunches and three dinners included), camping equipment and food as the entrance to Machu Picchu. All within a well organized tour!

### INCLUDES:

- ✓ Pre-tour briefing one day before the tour.
- ✓ Hotel pickup and minivan transportation to the trek's starting point (km 82).
- ✓ Expedition tourist train from Aguas Calientes to Ollantaytambo and bus to Cusco.
- ✓ Entrance permits for the Inca Trail.
- ✓ Professional tour guide (in Spanish or English).
- ✓ Porter team (to carry camping and cooking equipment) and cooks (3 breakfasts, 3 lunches, and 3 dinners included) – vegetarian option available.
- ✓ Camping equipment (two-person tents: Doite Himalaya model, extra light/4.5 kg or Eureka tent). Dining tent equipped with table and chairs.
- ✓ Machu Picchu Solo entrance.
- ✓ Return bus from Machu Picchu to Aguas Calientes.

### NOT INCLUDED:

- × Breakfast on the first day and the final lunch in the town of Aguas Calientes.
- × Sleeping bag (can be rented for **USD 25.00**).
- × Trekking poles (can be rented for **USD 10.00**).
- × Additional porter for **USD 198**.
- × Extra tent for **USD 40**.
- × Additional sleeping mat for **USD 25**.
- × Tips.



## INCA TRAIL 4 DAYS TOUR – DETAILED ITINERARY



### DAY 1:

- Pickup from your hotel in Cusco. We will board transportation that will take us to the starting point of the Inca Trail, near the town of Ollantaytambo.
- Once ready, we set off toward Machu Picchu. We will hike uphill for 13 kilometers, where we will catch our first glimpse of the archaeological site of Llactapata.
- At the scheduled time, the cooks will have a delicious lunch ready.
- We will continue the hike until we finally arrive at the chosen campsite, where we will have dinner and spend the night.

### DAY 2:

- We will wake up very early to enjoy breakfast before starting the hike.
- That day we will walk a total of 11 kilometers through high Andean landscapes, such as the “Abra Warmiwañusca” (at 4,215 meters above sea level).
- Then we will descend to the campsite where we will have lunch.
- After regaining our energy, we continue to the campsite chosen for the night, where our cooks and porters will be waiting with dinner served and the tents set up.

### DAY 3:

- This day’s trek will not be as strenuous. We will rise very early to have breakfast and prepare for a hike that will mostly be downhill.
- In the morning, we will visit the archaeological site of Sayacmarca. Then we will arrive at the campsite chosen for lunch.
- Afterwards, we will rest at our already set-up tents. That day we will walk approximately 16 kilometers.

### DAY 4:

- That morning, we will wake up very early to have breakfast and complete the hike that will lead us to Machu Picchu.
- After seeing Machu Picchu from the Intipunku (the Sun Gate), we will tour Machu Picchu through the **Panoramic Circuit 1** with our tour guide.
- Following the visit to Machu Picchu, we will descend by bus to the town of Aguas Calientes, where you’ll have the afternoon free to have lunch or shop.
- Finally, we will board the train that takes us to Ollantaytambo and, then by bus, back to the city.

## INCA TRAIL 4 DAYS TOUR – TIPS FOR YOUR VISIT



### HOW MANY KILOS OF LUGGAGE SHOULD YOU CARRY?

It is recommended to carry no more than 5 kilograms. This should be packed in a backpack that is suitable for hiking (waterproof, spacious, and well-fitted to your back).

### HOW TO ORGANIZE YOUR TRAVEL BACKPACK?

It is advisable to have a rain cover for your backpack or use an inner bag. Make sure your backpack has the following features:

- It is comfortable to carry.
- It has a chest strap and a waist strap to help distribute the weight.
- It includes side pockets for small items.
- It has loops and straps to secure clothes or other items.

### WHAT EQUIPMENT SHOULD YOU BRING?

During the Inca Trail, do not forget to bring:

- Passport (or other valid ID).
- Extra cash.
- Trekking poles.
- Sleeping bag.
- Cell phone batteries.
- Hat.
- Sunglasses.
- Sunscreen.
- Plastic bags (for waste storage).
- Insect repellent.
- Rain poncho.
- Flashlight.
- Camera.
- Clothing (t-shirts, sweaters, windbreakers, gloves, pants, socks, underwear, etc.).
- Snacks.
- Fruit.
- Oral rehydration solution.
- Medications (if needed).
- Personal hygiene items.

## INCA TRAIL 4 DAYS TOUR – ANSWERS AND QUESTIONS

### HOW TO SECURE A SPOT ON THE 4-DAY INCA TRAIL?

The tour has limited availability. Due to high demand and few available spots, booking must be made online approximately 6 months in advance. Otherwise, you will not secure a spot.

### CAN I CANCEL THE TOUR ONCE IT HAS BEEN PURCHASED?

No. Due to regulations from the Ministry of Culture of Peru, the 4-day Inca Trail tour cannot be canceled (or refunded) once purchased. It is recommended to plan your trip carefully.

### CAN I CHANGE THE DATE OF THE TOUR ONCE IT HAS BEEN PURCHASED?

No. The 4-day Inca Trail tour cannot be modified once acquired. According to the Ministry of Culture's rules, the tour cannot be canceled or changed. Therefore, it is advised to plan your travel date carefully.

### IS THE HIKE DIFFICULT?

The Inca Trail covers 39 kilometers in 4 days of hiking and 3 nights of camping under the stars. The route is of moderate difficulty. The first and second days are the most challenging as you ascend high mountains, while the third and fourth days are easier due to the downhill paths through the Cusco tropical jungle. It is recommended to be in good physical shape; however, in the end, everyone manages to reach the destination: Machu Picchu.

### WHAT TYPE OF MACHU PICCHU TICKET IS INCLUDED?

The tour includes the "Machu Picchu Solo" entrance. This ticket allows you to explore the main structures of the Inca citadel and capture that classic postcard photo with Machu Picchu in the background.

### IS THE TOUR AVAILABLE EVERY DAY?

Yes, the tour is available every day of the year, except in exceptional cases such as strikes or natural disasters that prevent normal operations.

### WHAT IS THE ALTITUDE OF THE HIKE?

On the second day, you reach the highest point: Abra Warmiwañusca, a mountain pass in the Andes at 4,215 meters above sea level. The lowest point is in the town of Aguas Calientes at 2,040 meters.

### DOES THE TOUR INCLUDE MEALS?

Yes. The tour includes 3 breakfasts, 3 lunches, and 3 dinners. All meals are prepared by chefs who accompany you on the trek. They include items such as pancakes, tortillas, soups, fresh fruit, spaghetti, chicken, fish, meat, and rice—rich in carbohydrates and ideal for trekking—as well as hot drinks like coca tea, which is excellent for high altitudes. There is also a tea time featuring tea, coffee, wonton, popcorn, and cookies.

### HOW DO I PAY FOR THE TOUR?

You can pay for the tour online through our payment form. Payment is accepted via any Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Diners Club, or PayPal card. The website uses secure online systems to protect your information. After payment, you will receive a confirmation email and your reservation will be confirmed.

### IS THE TOUR SUITABLE FOR EVERYONE?

Yes. The tour is suitable for everyone. However, it is recommended that children be older than 8 years and enjoy outdoor hiking. Older adults should be in good physical condition and are advised to get their doctor's approval before embarking on this mountain route.

### IS THE INCA TRAIL DANGEROUS?

No. The Inca Trail is set on safe paths built by the Incas along the slopes of majestic Andean mountains. There are safety signs and ropes along the way, and the tour guide is responsible for ensuring everyone's well-being. Nevertheless, it is recommended that you follow all safety guidelines.

## INCA TRAIL 4 DAYS TOUR – TOURIST ATTRACTIONS YOU WILL VISIT

### LLACTAPATA

Llactapata is the first archaeological site that you will see during the 4-day Inca Trail to Machu Picchu. It is also known as Patallacta. According to various studies, this latter name was the Inca name for Machu Picchu. It functioned as an urban center and checkpoint along the Inca Road. Like other Inca urban centers in the area, it also served as an agricultural hub where products such as potatoes, corn, quinoa, and more were cultivated. This Inca site is visited on the first day of the hike and is located only 5 kilometers from the starting point of the Inca Trail.

### SAYACMARCA

Sayacmarca is another Inca archaeological site seen on the 4-day Inca Trail to Machu Picchu. Its name comes from Quechua words meaning “Upright Town” or “Dominant Town,” because its structures are built on the edge of a cliff, giving the impression of standing “upright.” It consists of a network of narrow streets, enclosures, and passages arranged on different levels, along with plazas, channels, walls with niches or recesses, and trapezoidal doorways. All of this was constructed on steep terrain, where overcoming the incline was a challenge. This site is visited on the second day of the hike and is located 20 kilometers from the start of the trail.

### PHUYUPATAMARCA

Phuyupatamarca is an Inca archaeological site that can be visited on the third or fourth day of the hike, depending on the chosen campsite. Its name comes from Quechua words meaning “Place Above the Clouds,” owing to its location on a mountain surrounded by mist, especially in the mornings. It served both urban and religious functions and is notable for its dozens of agricultural terraces. You reach it after 32 kilometers from the starting point of the hike (and it is only 13 kilometers on foot from Machu Picchu).

### WIÑAYHUAYNA

Wiñayhuayna is one of the most beautiful archaeological sites encountered on the 4-day Inca Trail. It was built by Emperor Pachacutec in the 15th century, nearly at the same time Machu Picchu was constructed. Its name is a Quechua word meaning “Forever Young” or “Eternally Young.” The name is inspired by the abundance of orchids in the area—one of the most famous being the “Wiñayhuayma,” a particularly stunning and colorful orchid. The site features more than 40 agricultural terraces and includes enclosures for both the common people and the Inca elite. It is located 34 kilometers from the starting point of the hike (and only 5 kilometers from Machu Picchu).

### MACHU PICCHU

Machu Picchu is the Inca city built around 1450 on the orders of Emperor Pachacutec. It served religious, administrative, and urban functions. After being abandoned and forgotten, it was rediscovered in 1911 by the American explorer Hiram Bingham. Praised for its breathtaking landscape and architecture, it was chosen as one of the 7 Wonders of the Modern World. It is the final destination of the 4-day Inca Trail (after 39 kilometers on foot). The first view of the Inca city is from the Intipunku (Sun Gate), an unforgettable scenic experience for visitors.

### QHAPAC ÑAN INCA ROAD NETWORK

The qhapaq ñan were the vast network of Inca roads built over more than 30,000 kilometers. They spanned coastal, mountainous, and high jungle areas throughout what are now Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador, Colombia, Argentina, and Chile. Due to their historical importance, they were declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site under the title “Cultural Heritage of Humanity.” A small part of this immense network is the 39-kilometer route that leads to Machu Picchu. The only way to experience this route is by booking a tour—it is not possible to hike it on your own. It is considered the best hiking route in Peru!

## INCA TRAIL 4 DAYS TOUR – PHOTOS GALERY

