

TREK

THE CLASSIC AUSANGATE TREK

5 days / 4 nights

INTI PATH TOURS
TREKKING PERÚ



DESCRIPTION

The Classic Trek to the Imposing Ausangate

The Ausangate Trek is one of Cusco's best options for nature and trekking lovers. It's an epic journey through the foothills of the most important sacred mountain south of Cusco: The incredible Ausangate glacier that sits at 6,372 m / 20,905 ft.

On this amazing journey, you'll visit remote Andean towns, enjoy relaxing hot springs, and photograph the turquoise glow of beautiful crystalline lagoons dotted throughout the route. If you're passionate about hiking in the mountains, learning about local customs and traditions, and looking for an intense experience in remote areas of Peru, this package is perfect for you.

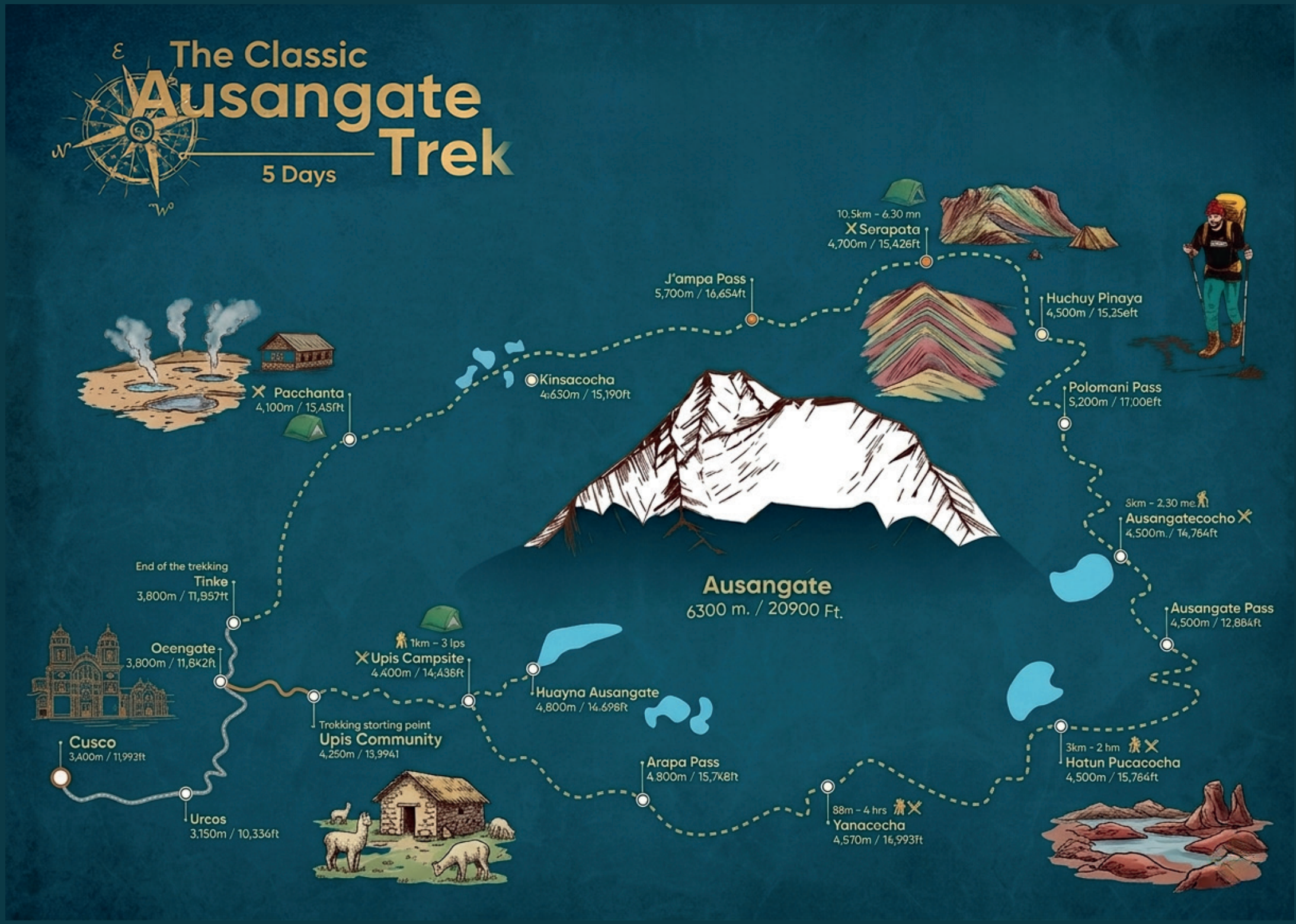
CONTENT

Map

Itinerary

Inclusions

Packing List


The Classic
Ausangate
Trek
5 Days
10.5km - 6.30 mn
Serapata
4,700m / 15,426ft
J'ampa Pass
5,700m / 16,654ft
Huchuy Pinaya
4,500m / 15,25eft
Pacchanta
4,100m / 15,45ft
Kinsacocha
4,630m / 15,190ft
Polomani Pass
5,200m / 17,00eft
5km - 2.30 mn
Ausangatecocho
4,500m. / 14,764ft
Ausangate
6300 m. / 20900 Ft.
End of the trekking
Tinke
3,800m / 11,957ft
Oeengate
3,800m / 11,8k2ft
1km - 3 hs
Upis Campsite
4,400m / 14,436ft
Huayna Ausangate
4,800m / 14,698ft
Ausangate Pass
4,500m / 12,884ft
Trokking storting peint
Upis Community
4,250m / 13,9941
Cusco
3,400m / 11,993ft
Arapa Pass
4,800m / 15,748ft
3km - 2 hm
Hatun Pucacocha
4,500m / 15,764ft
Urcos
3,150m / 10,336ft
88m - 4 hrs
Yanacocha
4,570m / 16,993ft

FULL ITINERARY

HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy an unforgettable adventure through the Cordillera Vilcanota, a breathtakingly beautiful mountain range approximately four hours south of Cusco.
- Contemplate the immensity of the valleys and huge Andean mountains from spectacular viewpoints.
- Marvel at the gigantic Ausangate glacier and its colorful crystalline lagoons.
- Discover the lifestyle of the Andean settlers and take the opportunity to make new friends.
- Learn all about local customs and traditions as well as the local wildlife.
- Get to know the wild fauna of the Andes, including llamas, alpacas, vicuñas, condors, and various water birds.
- Escape the hustle and bustle of the city and get away from the large crowds in the middle of the remote mountains.

DAY 01

Cusco | Ocongate - Upis - Huayna Ausangate Lake


1

Huayna Ausangate Lake Is Waiting for You

Your journey through the stunning Andean landscapes begins today when we pick you up early from your accommodation at 5 a.m. We'll travel in our vehicle to the town of Ocongate (3,500 m / 11,482 ft). On the way, we'll be able to see picturesque villages and beautiful lagoons along the Vilcanota Valley out the window.

We'll continue to Tinke, where you can make any last-minute purchases before reaching the community of Upis (4,250 m / 13,944 ft), the starting point of our trek. We'll enjoy a tasty breakfast here and meet the team of cooks and horsemen who'll join us on our adventure.


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Our first day begins on a plain looking directly at the immense Ausangate glacier (6,372 m / 20,905 ft). As we walk, we'll meet local people adorned in beautifully colorful traditional clothes. You'll also spot lots of herds of llamas and alpacas.

We'll arrive at the thermal baths of Upis (4,400 m / 14,436 ft) to enjoy our first meal prepared by our talented chef. Our camp will also be set up here, right in front of Ausangate Mountain.

In the afternoon, we'll walk to Huayna Ausangate Lake and enjoy a stunning sunset that'll cast its pretty light on the snows of the glaciers around us. In the evening, it'll be time for a tasty dinner and our first night in the mountains.







DAY FACTS

- MEALS: **Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner.**
- ACCOMMODATION: **Camp**
- DIFFICULTY: **Moderate**
- WALKING DISTANCE: **10 km / 6,21 mi**
- WALKING TIME: **5 hours**
- STARTING ELEVATION: **4,250 m / 13,944 ft**
- HIGHEST ELEVATION: **4,480 m / 14,698 ft**
- CAMPSITE ELEVATION: **4,400 m / 14,436 ft**

1. Ausangate
2. On the way to Ausangate
3. Huayna Ausangate Lake
4. Ausangate Mountain
5. Camping at the foot of Ausangate
6. Best Camping

DAY 02

Upis | Arapa Pass - Yanacocha - Hatun Pucacocha

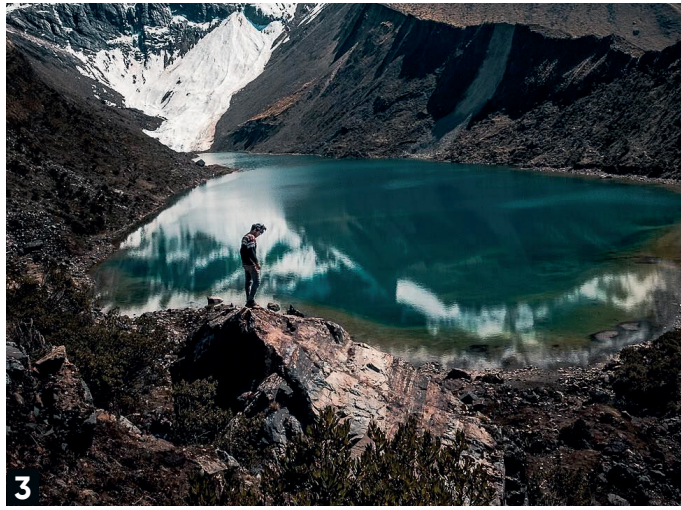

1

Be Astounded by the Sheer Natural Beauty of Mother Nature

We'll wake up early and savor a filling breakfast in the middle of the cold, high mountains and then begin walking for about two and a half hours through a beautiful, picturesque Andean valley towards the Arapa Pass (4,800 m / 15,748 ft). The spectacular Ausangate glacier will be by our side the whole way.

From the top of the pass, the beauty of the landscape multiplies, and the natural beauty of this part of the world will blow you away. You'll be able to observe the sheer size of the mountain range and, if you're lucky, the solemn flight of the condor - the largest flying bird in the world. Our guide will explain


2


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more about the impressive local flora and fauna as you hike this stretch to help you know more about the area you're walking through.

Then, we will begin a descent to the beautiful crystalline Yanacocha lagoon (black lagoon); afterward, we will follow the trail for another hour until we reach Hatun Pucacocha to appreciate the scenery and enjoy its glistening waters against the snow-capped mountains.

Later, we will explore the surrounding lagoons and relax with a delicious mate. In the evening, a nutritious dinner will be waiting for you to finally head to your campsite to rest and regain your energy.







DAY FACTS

- MEALS: **Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner**
- ACCOMMODATION: **Camp**
- DIFFICULTY: **Moderate**
- WALKING DISTANCE: **11 km / 6.84 mi**
- WALKING TIME: **6 hours**
- MINIMUM ELEVATION: **4,400 m / 14,436 ft**
- HIGHEST ELEVATION: **4,800 m / 15,748 ft**
- CAMPSITE ELEVATION: **4,500 m / 14,764 ft**

1. Hatun Pucacocha Lagoon
2. Alpacas in their natural habitat
3. Hatun Pucacocha Lagoon
4. Spectacular scenery
5. builds an apacheta at the foot of the snow-capped peak
6. Feel the power of Apu Ausangate

DAY 03

Hatun Pucacocha | Ausangatecocha - Palomani Pass - Huchuy Phinaya - Sorapata


1

Immerse Yourself in Local Customs and Traditions

Just like every other morning, you'll get a fantastic boost of energy to start the day, thanks to a delicious breakfast. Today's hike begins ascending for two and a half hours to the Ausangate Pass (4,750 m / 15,584 ft). From there, the immensity of the mountains will definitely surpass all your expectations.

We'll continue the route downhill for an hour to the Ausangatecocha lagoon. You'll have the opportunity to enjoy your lunch in the middle of an immense landscape - not a bad way to spend your lunch break!

Later, we'll ascend for around two hours until we reach the Palomani pass (5,200 m / 17,060 ft), the highest point of the entire route. After a short rest


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and enjoying some more astounding views, we'll walk for another hour and a half until we reach the small community of Huchuy Phinaya (4,650 m / 15,256 ft).

We have a lot of respect and consideration for the people of Huchuy Phinaya, who maintain ancient traditions to this day. Learn from them and their admirable lifestyle in complete connection with Mother Nature (Pachamama) and how they respect and live in harmony with her.

Today was the most challenging day, but it was worth it for a real connection with the Andes and Mother Earth. We'll have a gentle ascend of 2 hours to Sorapata, where our camp will be ready and waiting for your arrival. After a delicious dinner, a peaceful night's rest awaits.


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DAY FACTS

- MEALS: **Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner.**
- ACCOMMODATION: **Camp**
- DIFFICULTY: **Challenging**
- WALKING DISTANCE: **16.5 km / 10.25 mi**
- WALKING TIME: **9 hours**
- MINIMUM ELEVATION: **4,500 m / 14,764 ft**
- HIGHEST ELEVATION: **5,200 m / 17,060 ft**
- CAMPSITE ELEVATION: **4,700 m / 15,420 ft**

1. Hike near the Ausangate mountain
2. Enjoy the spectacular views of Ausangate
3. Ausangatecocha Lagoon
4. Stunning colors of the landscape
5. Alpaca herd
6. Beautiful lagoons at the foot of the snow-capped mountains.

DAY 04

Sorapata | Jampa Pass - Pacchanta







Pay Homage to Mother Earth and Explore Gorgeous Lakes

After another revitalizing breakfast, we'll begin our uphill walk over two and a half hours toward Jampa Pass at 5,070 meters (16,634 feet). From there, you'll have breathtaking views of majestic snow-capped mountains. Don't forget to keep your camera ready! We'll then gradually descend for approximately three hours until we reach our lunch spot at the Pacchanta campsite. Along the way, we'll also join the trail of the famous Seven Lakes tour.

Next to one of the beautiful and mystical lakes of the place (Qomercocha, Orco Otorongo, or China Otorongo), we'll have the option to perform a small ceremony on gratitude to Pachamama (Mother Earth)

and the surrounding mountains, especially the great Ausangate glacier who's watched us the entire route.

After our lunch, we'll have the afternoon free and get the opportunity to revitalize and heal our tired bodies in the medicinal hot springs of Pacchanta.

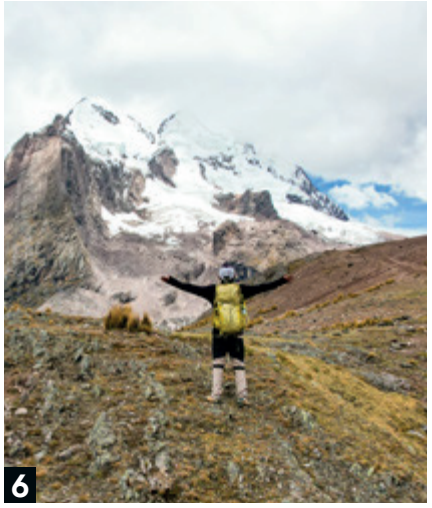
We'll finish the day by satisfying our taste buds and hungry bodies with another delicious dinner. You'll be astounded by the delicacies our talented chef conjures up in the mountains.



4



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6

DAY FACTS

» MEALS:
Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner.

» ACCOMMODATION:
Camp

» DIFFICULTY:
Moderate

» WALKING DISTANCE:
11 km / 6.84 mi

» WALKING TIME:
5-6 hours

» MINIMUM ELEVATION:
4,100 m / 13,451 ft

» HIGHEST ELEVATION:
5,070 m / 16,634 ft

» CAMPSITE ELEVATION:
4,100 m / 13,451 ft

1. Jampa Pass
2. Pacchanta
3. Ausangate Mountain
4. Seven Lakes
5. Hike near the Ausangate mountain
6. Ausangate Mountain

DAY 05

Pacchanta | Tinke - Cusco


1

The final day is here, and your epic adventure comes to a close today - but not before an optional last visit to the hot springs and a fantastic day on the trail.

After our last breakfast, we'll start a three-hour walk to the community of Tinke (3,800 m / 12,467ft). On the way, we'll visit an Andean family's home to learn about their ancient traditions that have been kept alive for generations in the middle of the mountains.

Once in Tinke, we'll have lunch and say goodbye to the trekking support team. At the end of this stretch, our transportation will be waiting to take us back to the city of Cusco. Enjoy looking out the window at the mountains and lagoons during this final drive. We'll drop you off at the door of your accommodation around 6:00 p.m.


2


3

DAY FACTS

» MEALS:
Breakfast and Lunch

» DIFFICULTY:
Easy

» WALKING DISTANCE:
7 km / 4.35 mi

» WALKING TIME:
3 hours

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

» HIGHEST ELEVATION:
4,100 m / 13,451 ft

1. Local population with typical costume
2. Hot springs of Pacchanta
3. Sale of handicrafts

INCLUSIONS



WHAT IS INCLUDED?

» Permits & Entrance Tickets

- Entry to the Ausangate Trek
- Entry to Pacchanta Thermal Baths

» High Quality Service & Safety

- Pre-departure Briefing

  You'll have an orientation meeting with your guide the evening before the tour. The meeting is at 5:00 p.m. in our office and, depending on the itinerary, in your hotel.

- Experienced Tour Guide

  Our official tour guides speak English and Spanish and are professionally trained and certified. We choose them for their experience, responsibility, unbridled passion for exploring, and pride in sharing our culture and history. In every experience, they will keep you safe and comfortable so you can enjoy your time worry-free!

- Private Camping Equipment
  - Tents: Spacious dining tents to enjoy your meals worry-free.
  - Tables, chairs, and cooking equipment
  - A Portable Travel Toilet
  - Sleeping Pad

  All equipment will be carried by our horses.

- One Duffle Bag

  For the trek, you'll receive a duffle bag to pack your personal belongings up to a maximum weight of 7 kg / 15.4 lb (this weight includes your sleeping bag). The horses will carry it on the route.

- Medical Kit or First AID Kit

  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.

- 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 small sleeping pillow, a cover to protect your backpack on the trail, and a rain poncho.

- 24/7 Customer Service

  We have telephone service available 24 hours/day for ease of communication leading up to your tour.

- Satellite Phone

  Your tranquility is our first priority. Although our guides are prepared for emergencies in the mountains, calling a doctor, hospital, or a friend can make you feel more secure. For that reason, guide carries a satellite phone to call any location worldwide and from anywhere on the mountain.

» Accommodation

- 4 Nights Accommodation in Campsites

  The best camping tents to ensure your safety and comfort (e.g., Eureka Timberline or Mountain Hard Wear tents).

» 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, filtered, and cooled water during your hike. For this, you need to bring a camel bag or an empty bottle, which you can refill during each meal (we recommend a capacity of 2 liters).

- Wake up tea

  You'll wake up every morning at the camp with a cup of hot coca tea! It'll be brought to your tent so you can warm up before you start the day.

- Tea Time or Happy Hour

  Every afternoon before dinner, the cooks will provide you with popcorn, cookies, coffee, hot chocolate, tea, 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!

- Daily snacks on the trail

  Every morning we'll give you snacks so you can enjoy them during the walk. The snacks include local fruits, biscuits, chocolates, caramels, etc.

- One cloth snack bag

  To avoid the use of plastic bags that contaminate our environment, we'll give you a cloth bag for your snacks.

- Hygiene Products

  We'll provide you with a small towel and soap to clean your hands before each meal.

» Transportation

- Transport
  - Day 1: You will be picked up from your hotel in the morning and travel in our transport to Upis, the starting point of the trek.
  - Day 5: Once you complete the tour, we will take you back to the door of your hotel in Cusco.
- Cargo Mules

  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.

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED?

» Extras and important equipment

You will need a sleeping bag for camping. Trekking poles are optional but highly recommended. If you don't have them, don't worry; you can rent

- **Sleeping bag: US$ 25.00**
- **Walking poles (pair): US$ 25.00**

» Day 5: Dinner

» Personal Hiking 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 the hard work they do. 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, pandemic, government policy changes, political instability, strikes, acts of God, etc.

BEFORE YOU GO

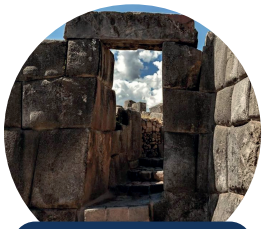
We want to make your trip to Peru as memorable and carefree as possible. In this section, you'll find the answers to all your questions about traveling
Please read the following information carefully – it will also help you with any questions about our services.

How many days do I need to acclimate in Cusco before the Trek?

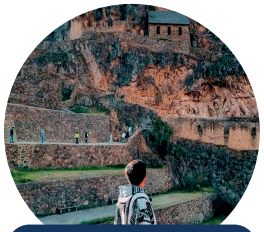
It's very important to be well acclimated to the altitude before exerting yourself on a trek. We recommend that you arrive in Cusco at least 2 or 3 days before the trek starts to help you adjust and avoid possible problems with altitude sickness while on the trek.

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



Sacred Valley



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

Tour Balance Payment

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 the trek, we'll provide you with a duffle bag to pack your clothes and personal gear needed for the trip. Our horsemen will carry it on the route and hand it to you once you get to each camp. Please note that you will not have access to your items in the bag until the end of each day.

The maximum weight allowed is 7 kg / 15.4 lb, including the weight of your sleeping bag, clothes, and other personal items. They measure 60 x 24 x 22 cm (23.6 x 9.4 x 8.7 in).

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.

» 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)aa
- Sunblock: factor 70 or more
- Personal Care Products
- Hiking boots or shoes (preferably waterproof)
- Light footwear or sandals
- Trekking pants (*)
- Trekking socks
- Pair of thermal pants
- 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).