



## 8 DAY SALKANTAY TO MACHU PICCHU

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**Trip Duration:** 8 days

**Trip Difficulty:** 

**Destination:** Peru

**Begins in:** Cusco

**Activities:** 

### INCLUDED

- Airport transfers
- Ground transportation
- Accommodations
- Entrance fees
- Water (boiled)
- Meals as described in itinerary
- 4 person tent, double occupancy
- Foam sleeping pad
- Oxygen & first aid kit
- Expert guides, cook, porters, horses & horsemen

### EXCLUDED

- Sleeping bags
- Inflatable mattress
- Trekking/hiking poles
- Waynapicchu Mountain hike
- Extra horse
- Hot Springs
- Tips



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## 8 DAY SALKANTAY TO MACHU PICCHU

### Itinerary

#### DAY 1 Arrive Cusco

Arrive Cusco with a transfer to your hotel; a welcome meeting will be organized by your guide for a quick briefing of the tour. The rest of the day can be spent exploring Cusco, the ancient capital of the Inca Empire, set in the Andes Mountains. Discover Spanish churches and mansions that sit alongside Inca remains and enjoy the vibrant nightlife or sampling Peruvian restaurants.

#### DAY 2 Cusco - Maras - Cusco

An early departure by bus to Maras will lead us to the bizarre and beautiful salt mines. The salt park is located on an open hillside above the Urubamba Valley a natural salt water stream that runs underground. A considerable volume of solid salt is obtained, which is then granulated, packed in sacks and sent to the region's markets. The day's tour continues a short distance to Moray which is a unique archaeological site where massive natural depressions or hollows in the ground surface were used for constructing irrigated farming terraces around them. The main depression is roughly 100 feet deep and the temperature difference between the top and bottom can be as much as 27 degrees (F). In the afternoon, we return to our hotel in Cusco. (Breakfast, Lunch)

#### DAY 3 Cusco - Mollepata - Soraypampa

An early morning bus transfer (around 5am) gets us to Mollepata where we will begin our 3 hour hike to Cruzpata. During the hike we will have panoramic views of the majestic Salkantay, snow-covered mountains and the Valley of Apurimac River. After lunch we continue our trek towards Soraypamapa, our first campsite. This will be the highest camp on the trail at 12,750 feet and the coldest too. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

#### DAY 4 Soraypamapa - Salkantay Pass - Colcapampa

We begin the most difficult section of the trek, after an early breakfast (around 5:30am). The Salkantay Pass, is the highest pass on the hike and the second highest point in the Cusco region that stands at 15,200 ft. We will enjoy the spectacular views of the mountainscape and imposing snowy peaks as we continue our descent through a dramatic cloud forest towards Huayracmachay. After lunch we will continue to hike for another 3 hours towards the jungle until we reach our second campsite, Colcapampa (9,800 ft). \*Depending on the groups abilities we may reach further campsites (Challway or Andenes). (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

#### DAY 5 Colcapampa - La Playa

As we depart from the Collpapampa campsite the trail ascends slightly before descending for the rest of the day towards La Playa (8,202 ft). The trail crosses the Lluskamayo River and a series of small creeks, along the way we will enjoy beautiful waterfalls, tropical fruits and plants. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

#### DAY 6 La Playa - Llaclapata - Aguas Calientes

Today is the final stretch of the trek before we reach the base of Machu Picchu. En route we visit Llaclapata an Inca site, set high on a mountainside that provides stunning views of Machu Picchu. After our tour we continue to the Hydroelectric Station, where we will enjoy lunch and catch the train to Aguas Calientes. Once in Aguas Calientes, we will relax at our hotel for the night. For an additional fee, you can take advantage of the hot springs in the town. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)



**DAY 7 Machu Picchu**

After an early morning breakfast served at the hotel, your guide will pick you up around 5:30am to catch the bus to Machu Picchu. As the sun begins to rise, the dramatic views of Machu Picchu are revealed. We will spend some time here taking photos and will enjoy a guided tour (approximately 2 hours). After the tour you are free to explore the mysterious city by yourselves.

You will meet your guide in Aguas Calientes for lunch (not included) and given your train tickets that will take you to Ollantaytambo and a final bus transfer will take you to Cusco. It is important to be at the train station 30 minutes before departure train times will be given to you by your guide. (Breakfast)

**DAY 8 Depart**

After breakfast you are transferred to Cusco Airport for departures. (Breakfast)

## PERU

### Best Time to Visit

Peru experiences two main seasons. The dry season, May through October offers sunny blue sky days and chilly nights. November through April is the rainy season with significantly more rain from January through April. Traveling during off-peak season means less crowds, greener scenery and lower rates, however, expect frequent showers, unpredictable weather with varying conditions.

#### Temperature

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Average High (F)	65	65	66	67	67	66
Average Low (F)	43	43	43	41	36	32

  

Month	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Average High (F)	66	67	68	69	69	69
Average Low (F)	32	35	39	41	42	43

### Entry Requirements

No visas required for Peru. A passport valid for six months after date of entry is required. Visitors must hold return/onward tickets and all documents required for their next destination.

### Vaccinations

Hepatitis A and B, Tetanus, and Typhoid immunizations are recommended for all travelers. Malaria prophylaxis is recommended if you are traveling to jungle regions and you should consult your local doctor or physician to advise which malaria medication is best suited for you. Information on vaccinations and other health precautions, such as safe food and water precautions and insect bite protection, may be obtained from the CDC's Internet site at <http://www.cdc.gov/travel>.

### Travel Advisories

Make two photocopies of valuables such as your passport, tickets, visas and travelers' cheques. Keep one copy with you in a separate place to the original and leave another copy with someone at home.

Be sure to inform your credit card company as well as your bank you will travel internationally into South America. This will eliminate any credit card holds for fraudulent activity.



### Currency

Carrying cash, an ATM or traveler's check card and also a credit card that can be used for cash advances in case of emergency is advisable. The best places to exchange money are normally bureau de change, which are fast, have longer hours and often give slightly better rates than banks. Local currency is Peruvian Nuevo Sol (PEN), and it is advised to carry hard notes of USD. Better hotels, lodges, and camps might accept credit cards; however it is advised to withdraw cash when visiting remote areas and villages.

### Government

Peru – is a constitutional republic.

### Religion

Roman Catholic 81.3%, Evangelical 12.5%, other 3.3%, unspecified or none 2.9%.