



9 DAY ECOCAMP SALKANTAY TO MACHU PICCHU

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Trip Duration: 9 days

Trip Difficulty:

Destination: Peru

Begins in: Cusco

Activities: 



INCLUDED

- Airport transfers
- Ground transportation
- Accommodations
- Entrance fees
- Water (boiled)
- Meals as described in itinerary
- Oxygen & first aid kit
- Expert guides & assistant guides

EXCLUDED

- Airfare
- Trekking/hiking poles
- Tips

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Ultimate Expeditions®

PH: (702) 570-4983

FAX: (702) 570-4986

Info@UltimateExpeditions.com

www.UltimateExpeditions.com

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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 - Pincopata Camp

You will be picked up from your hotel at 8 am and driven to the Condor Viewing Point at Chonta, with a stop along the way to explore one of two archaeological sites: Quillarumiyoc or Tarawasi. These sites were important ceremonial sites to the Inca. Quillarumiyoc was dedicated to worship of the moon, and Tarawasi was a ceremonial and rest stop on the road to Chinchaysuyo. You will enjoy vistas of the Limatambo valley dotted with small farming communities. Once in Chonta, you will hike for approximately one hour through the Apurimac Canyon, one of the deepest in Peru. After enjoying a boxed lunch at the condor viewing point, we continue to Pincopata EcoCamp – luxurious glamping at its finest. You will be welcomed with a freshly prepared fruit juice and tempted with an optional massage or if you are feeling active you can embark on an optional horseback or mountain biking tour. The day ends with a tasty three-course Peruvian meal. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

DAY 3 Soyray EcoCamp

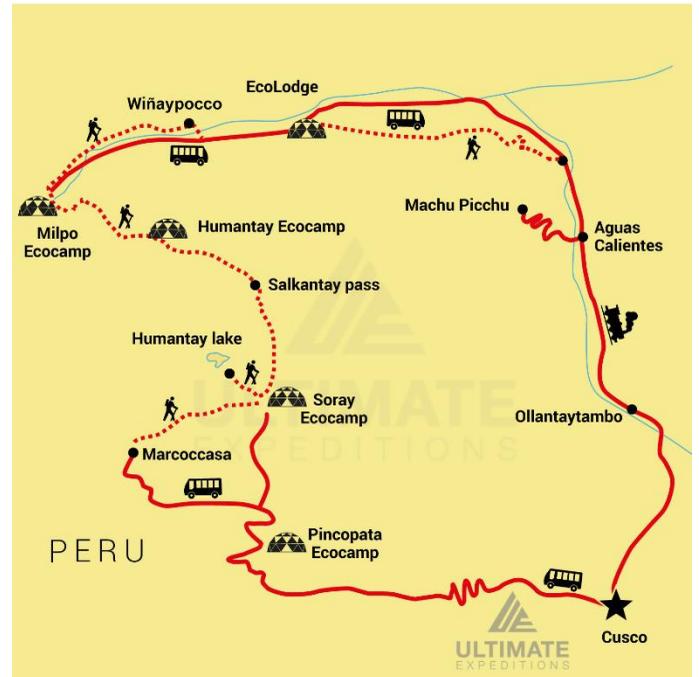
After breakfast, we drive 15 minutes to Marcoccasa, where the trail begins follows an aqueduct overlooking the spectacular Rio Blanco Valley and surrounded by the snow-capped peaks of the Humantay and Salkantay Mountains. We arrive at Soyray EcoCamp in time for a lunch, during the afternoon you can hike to Lake Humantay (about an hour and a half hike) a breathtaking glacially fed lake nestled between glacial moraines, remnants of once larger glaciers that covered the area near the base of the southern face of the mountain. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

DAY 4 Humantay EcoCamp

Today you will hike the Salkantay Pass (4,664m / 15,300ft) and experience views of one of the most iconic mountains of the Cusco region. Visible from the ruins Machu Picchu, the Incas considered Salkantay to be one of the principal deities controlling weather in the region. After breakfast, you will begin trekking from the bottom of the valley and gradually start ascending while crossing several grasslands. During the challenging final climb to pass you will be rewarded with views of Salkantay's snowy and rugged south face. Upon reaching the pass, we will celebrate and enjoy the panoramic views from a high-elevation Andean ecosystem as you witness the second most topographically prominent peak in Peru attributed to the deeply incised surrounding terrain. At the pass you will enjoy a picnic lunch before descending into Salkantay Valley. Your day will finish at the highest and most remote EcoCamp in located on a flat grassland and overlooked by Mount Humantay. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

DAY 5 Milpo EcoCamp

The days hike continues into a high altitude grassy plain as far as Abra Pass, from here you can see the impressive northwest face of Mount Humantay and experience the mountain from a different perspective. Lunch will be served with an offering of impressive views of the Salkantay and Manchayhuayco valleys. Following lunch, you will trek down to the Humantay River Valley, to the Milpo EcoCamp, located in the cloud forest region and host to endemic orchid species. The domes of the camp face the valley across the river offering a peaceful and tranquil environment.



DAY 6 EcoQuechua Lodge

After breakfast, you will trek down the valley to Totor, witnessing unique birds and orchid species along the way. Upon arrival at Wiñaypocco, our transport will be waiting to drive you to EcoQuechua Lodge where you will enjoy lunch. In the afternoon you will visit one of the local coffee plantations where a guide will show how highland coffee beans are picked, processed and roasted. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

DAY 7 Aguas Calientes

You will have several options to choose from for the morning's activities depending on your interests (options include for hike, zip lining or hot springs). In the afternoon you will board the train for the scenic ride to Aguas Calientes (Machu Picchu Pueblo). Here you can relax at the hotel for the night or explore the village. For an additional fee, you can take advantage of the hot springs in the town. (Breakfast)

DAY 8 Cusco

You will travel with our local guide by bus to the Incan ruins of Machu Picchu. Here you will discover the mysteries and magnificence of the sacred city of Machu Picchu. Options during this visit include climbing Machu Picchu Mountain or Huayna Picchu Mountain. These climbs are physically challenging, but the outstanding views from the peak of both mountains make the effort worthwhile. Lunch will be served at Sanctuary Lodge where you will take the bus to collect your luggage and then onto the train to Ollantaytambo from where you will transfer by road to Cusco.

DAY 9 Depart

After breakfast you will be safely transferred to Cusco airport for your 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
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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%.