



PERÚ CUSCO MACHUPICCHU

7 DAYS / 6 NIGHTS



Day 1.- ARRIVE IN CUSCO

Arrive in Cusco, the ancient capital of the Inca Empire. Meet your tour guide at the airport and transfer to your hotel near the city's main square. In the early afternoon, meet your Adventure Guide for a walking tour that introduces you to the history of the Inca civilization and its former capital with its ornate cathedrals, adobe walls, carved balconies, hidden courtyards, and cobblestone streets. In the evening, enjoy a welcome dinner at a local fine-dining restaurant located near the Cusco Main Square and featuring contemporary Peruvian cuisine.

Accommodation: hotel in Cusco

Activity: 3-hour walking tour of Cusco

Transportation: 30-minute airport transfer

Meals: Dinner

Day 2.-CHINCHERO AND HIKE AT MORAY & MARAS

Depart Cusco this morning and head to the Urubamba Valley, known as the Sacred Valley of the Incas. Stop in route for the ultimate foodie experience! Located in Chinchero, half way between Cusco and the Sacred Valley, and in the process produces a rich variety of colors, flavors and textures that are grabbing the attention of the culinary world. He welcomes you privately for a fascinating presentation about his work, as well as a chance to taste traditional uchucuta sauce, made out of Peruvian hot peppers, and his surprisingly delicious Andean tuber and potato wines. Also learn how traditional Andean textiles are made during a private demonstration, and stroll through Chinchero's lively weekly market. Continue to the ancient site of Moray to see its impressive circular terraces that were used by the Incas as a botanical laboratory. Stop for lunch prepared by top chefs near to Maras, surrounded by a lovely landscape of high mountains and green fields. Visit the salt pans of Maras, where one of the finest salts in the world is extracted. The patchwork effect of hundreds of salt pans in varying shades of white, pink and beige is wonderfully photogenic. Hike from Maras down to the town of Pichingoto, at the bottom of the Sacred Valley, then drive the short distance to the hotel to check in. Dinner this evening is at the hotel.

Accommodation: Urubamba-Sacred Valley, Peru

Activity: 2 hours / 3.4 miles hiking with 86' elevation gain & 500' elevation loss

Transportation: 3-hour private bus transfer

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 3.-HIKE FROM PISAC RUINS

Explore the ancient ruins of Pisac, perched on a hill high above the valley, and featuring some of the finest Inca stonework in existence as well as beautiful, sweeping terraces that perfectly highlight the contours of the mountain terrain. Hike down through the ruins and then along a network of stairs, tunnels and walkways down to the town of Pisac. Enjoy lunch , a gorgeous gem hidden in the lush fields of the Sacred Valley. Return to the hotel in the late afternoon and enjoy the grounds of this contemporary hacienda-style property surrounded by flowers, mountains and trees.

Accommodation: Urubamba-Sacred Valley, Peru

Activity: 3-4 hours/6.3 miles hiking with 939' elevation gain & 1,510' elevation loss

Transportation: 1.5-hour private bus transfer

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 4.EXPERIENCIE THE LEGENDARY INCA TRAIL TO MACHU PICCHU

Ride a classic Vistadome train up the narrowing gorge of the Urubamba River, disembarking at kilometer 104. Then, begin your half-day hike along the Inca Trail to the lost citadel of Machu Picchu. Stop first to visit the small Incan site of Chachabamba, then begin to climb upwards, emerging into a lovely cloud forest, and past a waterfall to the ruins of Wiñay Wayna. Continue ascending ancient stone steps and the narrow trail up to Intipunku, the original entrance to Machu Picchu. Pause to absorb the awesome view, then follow the trail down to Machu Picchu itself, arriving mid-afternoon. Continue by shuttle bus to Aguas Calientes and relax at the hotel for the rest of your day. (Optionally, skip the hike, continue by train, and explore Aguas Calientes on your own in the afternoon.)

Accommodation: Hotel-Aguas Calientes

Activity: 6 hours/7 miles hiking with 1,640' elevation gain

Transportation: 1.5-hour train ride

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



DAY 5. EXPLORE MACHU PICCHU

Enter the awe-inspiring ruins of Machu Picchu by morning light. Take a highly informative tour of the site's main structures and learn about their importance in the lives of the Incas. Take a challenging climb up either Machu Picchu Mountain or Huayna Picchu Mountain (optional and based on availability for the date) and be rewarded by breathtaking views of the citadel and the surrounding mountains. Enjoy lunch, then return to the hotel to relax.

Accommodation: Aguas Calientes

Activity: 3 hours guided walking tour of Machu Picchu, plus 2-3 hours/2 miles optional mountain hikes

Transportation: 30-minute public bus

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 6 JOURNEY BACK TO CUSCO

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast, with time for a short local hike or relaxing at the hotel. Mid-morning, catch the Vistadome train back to Ollantaytambo, arriving around noon. Enjoy a traditional Pachamanca lunch of poultry, potatoes, and vegetables, cooked underground with hot stones according to a technique that has lived on since the Incan Empire. You are in for a unique experience! After lunch, continue back to Cusco and check in to the hotel. In the evening, explore Cusco before a festive farewell dinner at one of the city's best restaurants.

Accommodation: hotel in Cusco.

Transportation: 1.5-hour train ride, 1.5 hour private van transfer

Meals: Breakfast,

Day 7 CUSCO & FLY HOME

After breakfast at the hotel and a leisurely morning, depart on homeward-bound flights.

Meals: Breakfast