



7 DAYS & 6 NIGHTS

SALKANTAY & INCA TRAIL TREK 7 DAYS

SALKANTAY TREK | Difficulty



DESCRIPTION

SALKANTAY & INCA TRAIL TREK 7 DAYS

The Ultimate Combined Trek to Machu Picchu - The Best of Both Worlds Are you finding it hard to decide between the Salkantay Trek and the Inca Trail? Well, twiddle your thumbs no more. Our Salkantay and Inca Trail 7 Days trek combines the two routes to Machu Picchu in one awesome trip. Both treks are considered in the top twenty-five treks in the world by National Geographic and put together form one of the most epic journeys of all. It's no surprise that this combo will challenge you to the max and test your limits. However, when it all comes to a climax at the astounding Inca Citadel, Machu Picchu, you'll realize all your efforts were worth it. You'll feel a huge sense of achievement and fulfillment as you wander among the ancient city and look out over the beautiful panorama of Peru's dense jungle.

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DURATION

7 Days & 6 Nighths

DIFFICULTY

Difficulty

DISTANCE

42.9 mi / 69 km

GROUP

Up to 12

FROM

US\$ 1,200



EXPLORE THE ROUTE

FULL ITINERARY.

TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- This 7-Day trek to Machu Picchu offers tourists the chance to enjoy a combination of both the Salkantay Trek and the Inca Trail.
The Salkantay Trek and Inca Trail are both listed as two of the 25 best treks in the world by National Geographic Adventure Travel Magazine.
- The Salkantay and Inca Trail 7 Days is one of the very best trekking adventures you'll find in Peru and across the whole of South America.
- Trekkers can witness rustic bridges, cascades, streams, glaciers, colorful valleys, waterfalls, wildlife, unique plants, and the intriguing cloud forest.
- Camping with fewer people allows you to control your trip and have the best views of these incredible mountains.
- The Inca Trail trek is listed in the top 5 best hikes in the world by multiple different magazines.
- Learn all about the ancient culture of the Incas and how they lived up in the mountains hundreds of years ago.
- End your journey with a visit to the world-famous Machu Picchu that'll take your breath away.



INJA EXPEDITIONS

DAY 03

Pampajaponesa - Incachiriaska Pass - Yanacaca - Pampacahuana - Inca Canal - Paucarcancha

Adventure Through the Andean Mountains

Today, you will start the morning with a hot coca tea and a good breakfast, as it will be the toughest day of the entire hike. We will slowly ascend to Incachiriaska Pass (5,100m / 16,732ft), the highest point of our journey, all accompanied by powerful glaciers.

Upon reaching the summit, you will be greeted with coca tea that will help you acclimatize to the altitude while admiring the beautiful scenery surrounding you, with lovely valleys scattered with crystal-clear lagoons. If you're lucky, you may see the majestic flight of the condor. There, you have the option to take a 30-minute walk to see the glaciers up close. Otherwise, we will begin our descent.

Soon, we will arrive at Yanacaca, our lunch spot, where our chefs will be waiting for us with everything ready for us to enjoy a well-deserved feast. Here, we can relax a bit before continuing with the hike.

In the afternoon, we will descend towards Pampacahuana through beautiful Andean valleys so picturesque that they will surely motivate you to have a camera in hand. This is an ideal place to rest and enjoy the views. Then, we will walk through a section of the Inca Trail that connects to different archaeological sites in the area until we reach the Inca Canal.

After learning a little more about its incredible history and the customs of the local people, we will enjoy a delicious dinner and rest at our campsite in Paucarcancha. You'll need to recover energy to continue the exciting journey the next day.

Day Facts

- MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner
- ACCOMMODATION: Camp
- DIFFICULTY: Challenging
- WALKING DISTANCE: 15 km / 9.32 mi

- WALKING TIME: 7-8 hours
- STARTING ELEVATION: 4,750 m / 15,584 ft
- MINIMUM ELEVATION: 3,120 m / 10,732 ft
- HIGHEST ELEVATION: 5,100 m / 16,732 ft
- CAMPSITE ELEVATION: 3,120 m / 10,732 ft

DAY 04

Paucarcancha - Wayllabamba - Ayapata

Your Inca Expedition Begins Here

Today, you'll feel as though you've been transported back in time as you walk the paths as the traditional farmers of Peru who live in complete communion and respect with Mother Earth, or Pachamama, as so many have done since ancient times. You'll be able to observe how they live in these remote regions and appreciate the tranquil nature of their lifestyle.

A little later on, we'll get to the Inca archaeological site called Paucarcancha to learn a bit about its history and advanced architecture for its time. Your guide will also show you how the vegetation changes as you get closer to the Sacred Valley of the Incas. The climate will get warmer and vegetation thicker.

Then, you'll finally enter the classic Inca Trail and have your lunch. You'll have time for a short break before we begin the ascent to our camp. Keep your camera handy to snap some wonderful photographs of the impressive mountains that welcome you as we enter the cloud forest. This evening, you'll have a tasty dinner before heading to bed for some well-deserved rest.

Day Facts

- MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner
- ACCOMMODATION: Camp
- DIFFICULTY: Moderate
- WALKING DISTANCE: 4 km / 2.49 mi
- WALKING TIME: 2 hours
- STARTING ELEVATION: 3,120 m / 10,236 ft
- MINIMUM ELEVATION: 3,000 m / 9,843 ft
- HIGHEST ELEVATION: 3,300 m / 10,827 ft

- CAMPSITE ELEVATION: 3,300 m / 10,827

DAY 05

Ayapata | Death Woman's Pass - Runkuraqay Pass - Yanacocha - Sayacmarca - Chaquicocha

Retracing Ancient Steps and Visiting Inca Constructions

Today is the most demanding part of the Inca Trail, but you'll also enjoy the best rewards. After breakfast, we'll begin a 4-hour ascent and observe how the landscape changes dramatically as we leave the thick vegetation behind once again and enter colder mountains. You'll notice lots of Andean hay around, called "icchu," which is the main diet of many animals that live in the region.

We'll reach 4,215 m / 13,829 ft at the Dead Woman's Pass, the highest part of the Inca Trail, where you'll have some time to relax and enjoy the glorious views all around of glistening glaciers who refuse to disappear into the clouds due to climate change.

Afterward, we'll descend along a cobbled path to our lunch spot. This section of the trail is dotted with exotic flowers and wild orchids. We ask you to take great care of them as they're at risk of extinction. According to the Andean culture, if you take things slowly and connect with nature, you should be accompanied by the magical flight of hummingbirds that are a sign of good luck.

After lunch, we'll climb for another 45 minutes until we reach the beautiful archaeological site of Runkuraqay. Despite the many theories and studies regarding the site, most experts believe it to have been a vantage point to monitor the valley below. Use this opportunity to take some photos and spread your wings as you imagine yourself soaring high above the mountains like a condor. We'll then continue for 45 minutes more until we reach the Runkuraqay Pass (3,950 m / 12,959 ft)

Your guide will give you a brief talk here as you rest your legs before you start a 30-minute descent to Yanacocha, where rituals were performed in honor of the water's spirit. Little by little, mist will cover the road as you enter the cloud forest and approach the Sayacmarca archaeological site. Once there, you'll be dazzled by the fine work and mastery of Inca architecture that still remains a mystery today.

Don't give up yet! There are still 25 more minutes of walking to reach our camp in Chaquicocha. You'll feel the warm embrace of the Amazonian spirit and the energy of life surround you in this incredible place to observe local flora and fauna's diversity. Enjoy a hearty dinner and a great night's sleep.

Day Facts

- MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner
- ACCOMMODATION: Camp
- DIFFICULTY: Challenging
- WALKING DISTANCE: 16 km / 9.94 mi
- WALKING TIME: 8-9 hours
- STARTING ELEVATION: 3,300 m / 10,827 ft
- MINIMUM ELEVATION: 3,300 m / 10,827 ft
- HIGHEST ELEVATION: 4,215 m / 13,829 ft
- CAMPSITE ELEVATION: 3,600 m / 11,811 ft

DAY 06

Chaquicocha | Phuyupatamarca - Intipata - Wiñay Wayna

Explore Inca Sites and Learn Their History

After the difficult day yesterday, you're rewarded with a much easier hike today, starting with a tasty breakfast. Before we begin our walk, ask permission from the beautiful Pumasillo glacier, and fill yourself with its energy. You'll only walk a total of 5 hours today and see three impressive archaeological sites along the way.

First off, we'll reach the Inca complex of Phuyupatamarca or "Town above the clouds." The Inca nobles used this sacred place to communicate with the stars and study astronomy, which was a very important part of their culture.

After, we'll descend for two-and-a-half hours to get to an agricultural experimentation station, Intipata (2,800 m / 9,186 ft), where you'll find a series of platforms used to create microclimates that boost food production in the area. From there, you'll also get a fantastic view of the Sacred Valley of the Incas and Urubamba River - a sacred body of water that runs through this territory as if it were a huge anaconda. Finally, we'll arrive at our lunch spot and campsite in Wiñay Wayna (2,650 m / 8,694 ft).

After lunch, you'll have the opportunity to take a shower and relax as you'll have the afternoon free to do what you please. You can also visit the archaeological site of Wiñay Wayna. Once again, the advanced architecture of the Incas will surprise you with aqueducts and temples. Listen carefully to your knowledgeable guide, who'll reveal the mysteries of this fascinating place to you.

Finally, enjoy your happy hour of snacks and hot drinks and your last dinner before our team of porters and cooks say their goodbyes to you. Thank them warmly for allowing you to have a fantastic adventure in comfort.

Day Facts

- MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner
- ACCOMMODATION: Camp

- DIFFICULTY: Moderate
- WALKING DISTANCE: 9 km / 5.59 mi
- WALKING TIME: 4-5 hours
- STARTING ELEVATION: 3,600 m / 11,811 ft
- MINIMUM ELEVATION: 2,650 m / 8,694 ft
- HIGHEST ELEVATION: 3,650 m / 11,975 ft
- CAMPSITE ELEVATION: 2,650 m / 8,694 ft

DAY 07

Wiñay Wayna | Sun Gate (Inti Punku) - Machu Picchu - Aguas Calientes - Ollantaytambo - Cusco

The Day You've Been Dreaming Of Is Finally Here – Machu Picchu Awaits!

Today is the highlight of your journey—the day you visit Machu Picchu, one of the most extraordinary places on Earth.

We'll wake up very early, while it's still dark, and have a quick breakfast before starting a 2-hour walk to the Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu.

After about an hour of hiking, we'll arrive at the Sun Gate (Inti Punku). From here, you'll get your first incredible view of Machu Picchu, nestled between majestic mountains. It's an emotional and unforgettable moment. You'll be amazed by how the Incas built such a stunning city in such a remote and steep location.

From the Sun Gate, it's a gentle one-hour descent down to the citadel. As the sun rises and lights up the ruins, the view becomes even more magical—a moment that will stay with you forever.

Once we reach the site, you'll enjoy a short visit to the upper terraces of Machu Picchu, where you'll have the chance to take the famous postcard photo. From here, you'll admire the remarkable stonework and the genius of Inca architecture, built more than 500 years ago.

After the visit, we'll exit the complex and take a bus down to Aguas Calientes, a vibrant little town with plenty of restaurants. Take your time to enjoy lunch, but remember to be at the train station at least 30 minutes before your departure.

The train will take you to Ollantaytambo, where our private transportation will be waiting to bring you back to your hotel in Cusco.

You'll finally be able to relax your legs—but your heart will still be beating with the rhythm of the Andes for a long time to come.

Note: Your Inca Trail permit includes entry to the upper section of Machu Picchu only. If you'd like a longer visit, you can purchase an additional ticket for:

- Circuit 2 – a full guided tour of the citadel, or
- Circuit 3 – access to the lower part of the site.

You can also hike Huayna Picchu or Machu Picchu Mountain for amazing panoramic views—just be sure to book those tickets in advance.

In any case, please let us know ahead of time, and we'll gladly arrange everything for you on time and with ease.

Day Facts

- MEALS: Box Breakfast
- DIFFICULTY: Moderate
- WALKING DISTANCE: 5 km / 3.11 mi
- WALKING TIME: 2 hours
- STARTING ELEVATION: 2,650 m / 8,694 ft
- MINIMUM ELEVATION: 2,040 m / 6,693 ft
- HIGHEST ELEVATION: 2,700 m / 8,858 ft
- MACHU PICCHU INCA TOWN ELEVATION: 2,430 m / 7,972 ft

DAY 01

Cusco - Mollepata - Challacancha - Soraypampa - Humantay Lake - Sky Camp

Hike to the Jewel in the Mountains

You'll be up nice and early today to be ready for us to pick you up around 4:30 a.m. You'll travel in our comfy transportation with blankets to enjoy a bit more sleep on the drive. After 2 hours, we'll enjoy a brief stop in Mollepata for an optional breakfast. We'll then continue on to Challacancha, where we'll start our hike.

First, you'll meet the cooks and horsemen, as well as do a last equipment check. Then, we'll be on our way. You'll start with a 3-hour moderate walk to Soraypampa (3,900 m / 12,795 ft), where we'll be spending our first night. The first section is relatively flat with a slight bit of uphill through a deep valley of glaciers. You'll notice that a lot of the trail follows a restored Inca water channel, which local farmers still make use of today. This section is 7 km / 4.35 mi overall.

Once in Soraypampa, you'll get settled in at our exclusive Sky Camp, where you'll sleep this evening.

You'll have a bit of time to rest after enjoying your first lunch in the mountains. Feeling refreshed, it'll be time to start the hike up to the incredibly beautiful Humantay Lake (4,200 m / 13,780 ft).

This round trip takes about 3 hours and covers 3 km / 1.86 mi. It's not far, but you need to take things slowly at this altitude. You'll have some time once you get to the lake to enjoy the fantastic scenery. There aren't many places in the Andes quite as stunning as the turquoise waters glistening against the Humantay glacier. You'll feel like you're in a fairy tale!

Back at camp, you'll enjoy a delicious and well-deserved dinner with a beautiful sunset as your company. You can't describe the energy here, but you'll feel its peacefulness for yourself once here. Then it'll be time to turn into your Sky Camp igloo. From the glass roof, you'll be able to enjoy a night under the stars, constellations and comets, and wake up to see the Apu Salkantay watching over you.

Our dazzling SKY CAMP is located in front of the impressive mountains Humantay and Salkantay. This campsite creates the perfect union of sky and earth. It allows you to sleep calmly under a clear sky starred with an exceptional view of the constellations. At the same time, you can enjoy all the comforts of a first-class vacation home.

- 32 igloos
- 2 person per hut
- Dining room and kitchen
- Toilets
- Optional:
- Wi-Fi

Day Facts

- MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner
- ACCOMMODATION: Sky Camp
- DIFFICULTY: Moderate
- WALKING DISTANCE: 10 km / 6.21 mi
- WALKING TIME: 5 to 6 hours
- STARTING ELEVATION: 3,800 m / 12,467 ft
- MINIMUM ELEVATION: 3,800 m / 12,467 ft
- HIGHEST ELEVATION: 4,200 m / 13,780 ft
- CAMPSITE ELEVATION: 3,900 m / 12,795 ft

DAY 02

Soraypampa - Salkantaypampa - Ichupata - Pampajaponesa

Witness the majestic Salkantay

In the morning, we will wake you up with a hot coca tea to give you the boost you'll need to start your day. Then, you'll savor a delicious breakfast and listen to a brief explanation from our guide about the importance of the mountains in Andean culture.

We will begin the hike heading to Salkantaypampa. This part of the trail is a bit steep and challenging due to the altitude, so it's important not to rush and stay hydrated to avoid altitude sickness. But don't worry, after the ascent, the trail becomes flat, and you'll be rewarded with the best views of the snowcapped mountains of the Andes. It's a great time to connect with nature and enjoy the surroundings.

We will continue towards Ichupata to enjoy a delicious lunch while appreciating the most wonderful views of nature. As you hike this trail, you'll be surrounded by natural landscapes and the Salkantay mountain. After lunch, we head towards Pampajaponesa, where we will spend the night.

Pampajaponesa is a great place to rest and relax after a long day of hiking. Here, you'll contemplate the best panoramic views of the Mollepata valley, the Apurimac River, and some lagoons that are on the way, making this place a great destination to take photos of the beautiful landscape. At night, you'll enjoy the exquisite food prepared by our chefs while appreciating the constellations of the Andean sky.

Day Facts

- MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner
- ACCOMMODATION: Camp
- DIFFICULTY: Moderate
- WALKING DISTANCE: 10 km / 6.21 mi
- WALKING TIME: 5-6 hours
- STARTING ELEVATION: 3,900 m / 12,795 ft

- MINIMUM ELEVATION: 3,900 m / 12,795 ft
- HIGHEST ELEVATION: 4,750 m / 15,584 ft
- CAMPSITE ELEVATION: 4,750 m / 15,584 ft

SERVICES FOR YOUR JOURNEY

INCLUSIONS

WHAT IS INCLUDED

Inclusions

WHAT IS INCLUDED?

Permits & Entrance Tickets

Day 1: Entry Ticket to Humantay Lake & the Salkantay Trek

Permits and Ticket for the Inca Trail

We will process all necessary permits once we receive your complete information and reservation deposit. Permits are subject to availability and are issued for a specific date under your name. They cannot be modified under any circumstances. Passport number changes are only allowed for renewal purposes, in which case you must provide both your old and new passports.

Entry Ticket to Machu Picchu Archaeological Site – Circuit 1, Route 1-C (Day 7)

Walk through the upper platforms of Machu Picchu and enjoy the world-famous postcard viewpoint. This is the route followed by all Inca Trail hikers and offers the best panoramic introduction to the citadel—perfect for unforgettable photos and a complete first impression of the site.

Entry Ticket to Machu Picchu Archaeological Site – Circuit 3, Route 3-B (Day 7)

Explore the heart of Machu Picchu's sacred lower sector, home to the most refined Inca architecture. This route takes you to iconic spots such as the Temple of the Sun, the Twelve Niches, agricultural terraces, the Temple of the Condor, and the ceremonial reflecting pools—an intimate and cultural way to experience the citadel.

High Quality Service & Safety

Pre-departure Briefing

The day before your trip, you'll meet your guide at 5:00 p.m. at our main office in Cusco. During this briefing, you'll receive the final details about your departure, get to know the other members of your group, and receive your duffle bag. This meeting ensures you're fully prepared for your adventure. If you're unable to attend, please let us know in advance so we can arrange an alternative time, location, or a detailed WhatsApp call.

Experienced Tour Guide

Our official tour guides speak English and Spanish and are professionally trained and certified in safety and quality service. Chosen for their experience, responsibility, and passion for exploration, they take pride in sharing our culture and history. With their guidance, you'll stay informed, safe, and comfortable, ensuring a worry-free adventure and an unforgettable experience of a lifetime.

Private Camping Equipment

- Tents: You'll have spacious dining tents to enjoy your meals worry-free.
- Tables, chairs, and cooking equipment
- Portable Travel Toilet
- Sleeping Pads (Foam Mattresses)
- Inflatable Mattresses

All equipment will be carried by our horses and then, by our porters.

One Duffle Bag

For the trek, you'll receive a duffel bag to pack your personal belongings, with a maximum weight limit of 5 kg (11 lb), which will be carried by our staff.

Extras Included in Our Service

WHAT IS INCLUDED

Inclusions

WHAT IS INCLUDED?

Besides everything already included in the trek, we also provide small but essential items to make your experience more comfortable: foam mattress, rain poncho, and a protective cover for your backpack.

Satellite phones

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, each Salkantay Trekking guide carries a satellite phone to call any location worldwide and from anywhere on the mountain.

Professional long-range walkie-talkies

Walkie-talkies optimize communication, ensuring quick response and coordination in key situations and locations.

Medical Kit or First AID Kit

All Salkantay Trekking guides have received specialized training in first aid. We hold mandatory training sessions with our guides every February. Your guide will always carry a first aid kit to face basic emergencies (altitude sickness, travelers' diarrhea, cuts, scrapes, etc.) as well as oxygen. If necessary, we'll evacuate you from the path as quickly as possible and ensure that you arrive at a clinic for treatment.

Backpack Cover: Our attention to detail sets us apart. You'll receive a cover to protect your backpack along the way.

Accommodation

Day 1: Accommodation in our Exclusive Sky Camp

Nestled between the majestic Humantay and Salkantay peaks, our exclusive Sky Camp offers a one-of-a-kind connection to the mountains. This isn't traditional luxury—it's something deeper: a chance to experience nature in its purest form. Spend the night surrounded by breathtaking landscapes and fall asleep beneath a sky full of stars. It's a peaceful, awe-inspiring moment you'll never forget.

Days 2 to 6: Nights of Comfortable Tent Accommodation

At Salkantay Trekking, we use top-quality 3-season and 4-season camping tents from trusted brands such as Eureka Timberline, Mountain Hardwear, Doite, and The North Face—or other high-quality alternatives—carefully selected based on the demands of each route to ensure your safety and comfort. While the tents are designed for four people, they are shared by only two, providing you with extra space, added comfort, and greater privacy.

Meals

7 Breakfasts, 6 Lunches, and 6 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 you boiled, filtered, and cooled water during your hike, from your first lunch to your last breakfast. For this, you need to bring a camel bag or an empty bottle (we recommend a capacity of 2 liters).

Wake up tea

WHAT IS INCLUDED

Inclusions

WHAT IS INCLUDED?

Every morning at the campsites, you'll wake up to a hot cup of coca tea, delivered straight to your bed—perfect for warming up before you start the day.

Tea Time or Happy Hour

During the trek, every afternoon before dinner, our cooks will serve popcorn, cookies, coffee, hot chocolate, tea, and hot water. After a long day of hiking, you won't have to wait until dinner to unwind, warm up, and enjoy a tasty treat!

Daily Snacks on the trail

Before starting your trekking, your tour guide will provide you a cloth bag with local fruits, cookies, chocolate, caramels, etc. Every morning, we'll refill it so that you can enjoy your snacks during the walk.

One cloth snack bag per person

We'll provide you with a cloth bag for your snacks—perfect for storing wrappers and keeping the environment clean. Feel free to use it throughout your journey!

Products for hygiene

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

Transportation

Transport

- Day 1: You'll be picked up from your hotel in the morning and travel in our transportation to Challacancha, the starting point of the trek.
- Day 7: Bus Ticket from Machu Picchu to Aguas Calientes.
- Day 7: Transport from Ollantaytambo train station to your hotel in Cusco.

Day 7: Train Ticket from Aguas Calientes to Ollantaytambo

Expedition Machu Picchu by PeruRail or The Voyager to Machu Picchu by Inca Rail (train options and schedules subject to availability).

Cargo Mules

On days 1, 2, and 3, cargo mules will carry all the camping equipment and your baggage allowance (5 kg / 11 lb). Our muleteers will be responsible for your duffle bag and personal items, and they'll hand them to you when you get to each camp.

Porters (Kallpa Team)

Our Porters Team will carry all camping equipment and supplies needed for the trek. Additionally, we'll include the personal service of a porter responsible for carrying your duffle bag and personal items.

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED

Exclusions

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED?

Sleeping Bag

If you don't have your own sleeping bag, you can rent one from us. Our high-quality mummy-style sleeping bags are designed to withstand temperatures as low as -18°C (0°F) and include a clean sleeping liner for added comfort. Each bag is thoroughly cleaned and carefully maintained after every use to ensure optimal hygiene and performance.

- US\$ 35.00 per person

Trekking Poles

Trekking poles (with rubber tips) can be very useful on rough terrain and for ascending and descending. You can rent a set from our company if you'd like.

- US\$ 35.00 per person

Optional Horse or Mule Ride Assistance from Soraypampa to Humantay Lake (Day 1)

Lunch in Aguas Calientes and Dinner in Cusco (Day 7)

Personal Hiking Clothing and Gear

Travel Insurance

Tips for our staff

While our team receives fair salaries, any additional gesture is always appreciated in recognition of their hard work and dedication. Participants often choose to pool their tips and present them directly to the hiking team or through their guide.

Additional costs or delays beyond our control

Landslides, adverse weather conditions, itinerary modifications due to safety concerns, illness, pandemics, government policy changes, political instability, strikes, acts of God, etc.

Before You Go

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

The Inca Trail Without Plastics

Join us on this journey towards a plastic-free Inca Trail, where the beauty of the landscape is matched only by our commitment to environmental stewardship. Together, let's pave the way for a more sustainable and responsible adventure through the heart of history.

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.

Briefing or Informative Meeting

All information meetings and briefings are held in our main office in Cusco (or your hotel) at 5:00 pm, one night before the tour begins. These meetings last approximately 30 to 45 minutes. If you're unable to attend, you must coordinate another time by email, by phone or at the Salkantay Trekking office.

Trek Balance Payment (in Cusco)

The tour has to be paid in full at most 2 days before your departure. Otherwise, your reservation will not be confirmed.

If possible, it would be greatly appreciated if you could settle the remaining balance for the trek/tour in cash, either in US dollars or the local currency, at our office in Cusco. You can withdraw funds from various ATMs located along Avenida Sol, offering both US dollars and Peruvian Soles. Alternatively, you have the option to pay using a credit/ debit card or PAYPAL, either online or in person, but please note that a 5% service charge will be applied by our payment gateway (Niubiz) and PAYPAL. We regret to inform you that we are unable to accept bank checks or traveler's checks as forms of payment for the balance.

Duffel Bag or Canvas Case

The evening before the trek, we'll provide you with a duffel bag to pack your clothes and personal gear needed for the trip. Our horsemen and porters team 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, your main luggage can be stored at our office (you can organize it with us on the briefing day or by email) or at your hotel, both free of charge.

Any equipment that you won't need on the trek can be stored safely in your hotel. Nearly every hotel will provide this service. Don't leave items of value with your bags; put them in the hotel safe and obtain an itemized receipt (in the unlikely case of theft, many insurance companies require that you have a copy of the receipt itemizing everything). It's best to put items such as credit cards inside a sealed, signed envelope for extra peace of mind.

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.

Before You Go

- 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.

Return to Cusco

Returning from Machu Picchu requires quite a bit of logistics, but don't worry. Everything is included in your tour!

- In Machu Picchu, you'll board a bus that'll take you for 25 minutes to the small city of Aguas Calientes. The buses are boarded according to arrival.
- In Aguas Calientes, you'll board a train to Ollantaytambo (or Poroy). Your guide will give you the train tickets where the boarding time will be shown. Make sure you're on the platform 30 minutes early. The train from Aguas Calientes to Ollantaytambo takes 1:45 hours.
- Once you arrive at the station, our representative, identified with the Salkantay Trekking clothing, will be waiting to transfer you to Cusco or directly to your hotel. The trip from Ollantaytambo to Cusco takes 1:30 hours.
- In Cusco, depending on your hotel's location, we'll take you to a smaller car from our company (Hyundai H1) to transfer you faster to your hotel.

Group Tours

Group tours are made up of different types of people, then physical conditions and ages can vary. By agreeing to be part of a group tour, you also accept that some people may be faster or slower than you. Therefore, each person can go at their own pace on the route.

It may be the case that a group wishes to modify the tour; however, the guide will be the one who decides, after consulting with all the participants, if such modifications are possible.

Strikes and demonstrations

Strikes and demonstrations are common in Peru, and this may interrupt some of our tours. Roads can be blocked, and train tracks can be taken over. However, we will try to keep your trip as originally planned, even if it means leaving the night before the scheduled date.

Under these circumstances, tours may also be canceled. In case of changes or cancellations, everything will be coordinated with you by our operations department. Your safety is our highest priority, and our decisions will be made to protect it.

Lost objects

Please pay attention to where you leave your things and remember to take everything once you leave our transport, camps, tents or restaurants. 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)
- Sunblock: factor 70 or more
- Insect repellent
- Personal Care Products
- Hiking boots or shoes (preferably waterproof)
- Light footwear or sandals
- Trekking pants (*)
- Trekking socks
- Pair of thermal pants
- Shorts
- Waterproof gaiter
- Long sleeve t-shirts
- Warm jacket
- Waterproof jacket
- Raincoat or rain poncho
- Waterproof or wool gloves
- Sun hat to protect neck and face



Packing List - Continued

- 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.
- Flashlight



Plan your next adventure with Inja Expeditions

Info@injaexpeditions.com | 912 819 324 | Cusco - Cusco - Perú

<https://injaexpeditions.com>