



The Mountains that
Challenge Time

04 days | 03 nights

Description



From Rainbow Mountain to Machu Picchu

Here's a program we've created just for you! We'll explore several destinations with one-of-a-kind scenery, and we'll see all of them in just four days. We'll walk through spots with spectacular views, the best in the region of Cusco. You'll surely learn from their rich history, the surrounding nature and the friendly people you'll meet on this adventure. Come along with us to share in this amazing experience! Visit the striking Rainbow Mountain, the archeological site at Huchuy Qosqo and the majestic, sacred Inca citadel of Machu Picchu.

Let us introduce you to the famous Rainbow Mountain, also known as Vinicunca. As you get closer, you'll see these magical hues with your own two eyes. And on top of that, on this trip, you'll see the giant glacier of Ausangate and the archeological site of Huchuy Qosqo. We'll also get

to spend time hiking on an ancestral Inca Trail, and that will connect us to the Sacred Valley of the Incas. To finish out this incredible journey, we'll explore the Mecca of the Inca civilization, Machu Picchu, and the imposing mountains surrounding it. They'll make you feel like you've traveled through time and through history. We assure you that this will be one of the best trips you've taken in your life!

The background features a light-colored map of a region with a thin teal line. On the left, there are detailed topographic contour lines. At the bottom, a dark grey silhouette of a mountain range is overlaid on a darker, textured map of the same region.

Full Itinerary

Day 01

Cusco > Quesiuino > Puca Pass > Anantapata > Warmisaya Pass > Surinecocha



Communion with the Sacred Mountains

We'll jump-start our trip early on this first day of adventure. After having a good breakfast prepared by our talented chef in Quesiuino, we'll make our way to the starting point of this incredible hike. Gradually, we'll walk up to the Puca Pass (4,870 m / 15,977 f) and enjoy the best views the mountains have to offer of the lakes at the foot of the Ausangate glacier.

When we've had our fill, we'll go down to Anantapata for lunch before trekking uphill again, this time to the Warmisaya Pass (4,985 m / 16,355 f). Just imagine, from here, you'll have a far-off view of the long-awaited Rainbow Mountain! After so much excitement, we'll finally get to rest down in our camp near the glacial lake of Surinecocha (4800m / 15,749 f). Here, in this beautiful place, you'll be able to recuperate your strength

to start all over again the next day.



Day Facts

Meals:

Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Level of difficulty:

Moderate

Hiking distance:

11 km / 6.83 miles

Hiking time:

7.5 hours

Starting altitude:

4,376 meters / 14,357 feet

Minimum altitude:

4,376 meters / 14,357 feet

Maximum altitude:

4,985 meters / 16,355 feet

01 Trek to Puca Pass

02 Puca Pass

03 Trek to Warmisaya Pass

Day 02

Surinecocha > Rainbow Mountain > Red Valley > Andahuaylillas > Rumi Punku > Huacarpay > Cusco

Let Yourself be swept away by the Spirit of the Mountain



We'll leave very early and climb up to Rainbow Mountain to warm up. We'll be able to spend time in this magical place with the first sunbeams of the day! We're lucky, because we'll be the first people to arrive and enjoy the splendor of this mountain to the max with its indescribable range of colors.

After our morning on Rainbow Mountain, we'll head toward another treat for today: the Red Valley. We'll walk around its fiery red lands, and you'll feel like you've been transported to the planet Mars. After that, we'll take our private car to Andahuaylillas to visit its colonial church, learning about its history and taking a look at its famous frescoes.

Next, we'll make our way to Rumi Punku, known to be the ancient entrance to the city of Cusco. We'll do a short, 45-minute hike to the

Huacarpay Lagoon and have lunch there, finishing off our day. We'll take advantage tonight to rest and then continue our adventure tomorrow.



Day Facts

Meals:

Breakfast and lunch

Level of difficulty:

Moderate

Hiking distance:

6.5 km / 4.03 miles

Hiking time:

4 hours

Starting altitude:

4,800 meters / 15,748 feet

Minimum altitude:

3,050 meters / 10,006 feet

Maximum altitude:

5,100 meters / 16,732 feet

01 Red Valley viewpoint

02 Rainbow Mountain

03 Rainbow Mountain

Day 03

Cusco > Corao > Community of Patabamba > Qoricocha Lake > Huchuy Qosqo > Cusco



One Path Many Landscapes

Today, we'll go to the small town of Corao and then take a road leading to the community of Patabamba. We'll continue on the the Qoricocha Lake where today's hike starts. We'll have breakfast before taking off uphill to the Apacheta Pass (4,200 / 13,780 f), the highest point on this hike.

We'll walk on part of the Inca Trail that's been restored by the Qhapaq Ñan Project who is connecting all the existing pieces of Inca Trails in the area into one. We'll keep going to the archeological site of Huchuy Qosqo and explore its storage rooms, terraces, temples and water reservoirs used by the Incas in dry season.

After spending a good amount of time here, we'll enjoy our boxed lunch and then hike downhill for two hours to the base of the mountain, close to the Urubamba River. From here, we'll

take our car back to the city of Cusco.



Day Facts

Meals:
Breakfast and boxed lunch

Level of difficulty:
Moderate

Hiking distance:
14 km / 8.69 miles

Hiking time:
5 hours

Starting altitude:
4,050 meters / 13,287 feet

Minimum altitude:
2,941 meters / 9,649 feet

Maximum altitude:
4,200 meters / 13,780 feet

01 Viewpoint of Sacred valley of the Incas

02 Huchuy Qosqo

03 Trek to Huchuy Qosqo

Day 04

Cusco > Ollantaytambo > Aguas Calientes > Machu Picchu > Ollantaytambo > Cusco



Lights Camera Machu Picchu !

To finish off this amazing program, we'll finally visit the grand citadel of the Incas, Machu Picchu. Obviously, it's one of the most-visited architectural wonders in the world! When you're able to admire this gem, you'll travel through time and go back to the age of the Incas.

As per usual, we'll start the day very, very early, leaving Cusco by car to Ollantaytambo and then taking one of the first trains to Aguas Calientes. Once in the town, we'll take the only bus going up the mountain to the entrance of Machu Picchu. We'll tour around the entire city with our professional guide, and you'll be able to visit temples, terraces, palaces, the priests' quarters, the Inti Huatana, the industrial sector and the gorgeous agricultural fields around this wonder of the world.

You'll surely have lots of questions

during the tour but, in the end, some of them will go unanswered. No one can really explain the exact harmony between architecture and nature possessed here in this majestic place. After taking a mountain of pictures and visiting every corner of this amazing city, we'll return to Aguas Calientes to enjoy our lunch. Later, we'll go to the train station to take a ride back to Ollantaytambo, and then hop in the car to head back to Cusco. That'll be the end of this astonishing trip.



Day Facts

Meals:

Breakfast

Level of difficulty:

Moderate

Duration of the guided tour:

3 hours

Minimum altitude:

2,100 meters / 6,890 feet

Maximum altitude:

2,430 meters / 7,972 feet

01 Machu Picchu

02 Machu Picchu

03 Machu Picchu



Inclusion & Packing List

What is Included?

High Quality Service & Safety

- **Pre-departure Briefing**
Detailed trek briefing with your Guide the day before the tour. The meeting is at 5:00 pm in our office.
- **Experienced Tour Guide**
Our official tour guides speak fluent English and Spanish, 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 (Rainbow Mountain Trek)**
 - A spacious dining tent to enjoy your meals worry-free
 - Tables, chairs, dishware, and cooking equipment
 - A portable travel toilet
 - Inflatable mattress

All equipment 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**
All Ausangate Peru guides have received specialized training in first aid. We hold mandatory training sessions for them every February. Your guide will always have a first aid kit and oxygen to face basic emergencies (altitude sickness, travelers' diarrhea, cuts, scrapes, etc.). If necessary, we'll evacuate you from the path as quickly as possible and ensure that 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 sleeping pillow, a cover to protect your backpack on the route, and a rain poncho.
- **24/7 Customer Service**
We have telephone service available 24 hours/day for ease of communication with Ausangate Peru leading up to your tour.

Accommodation

- **1 Night Accommodation in Tents**
Ausangate Peru uses the best equipment to ensure your safety and comfort. Every 2 people will share a Eureka Timberline or Mountain Hardwear tent with a capacity of 4 people.

- **Hotel in Cusco (2 Nights)**
You'll spend 2 nights in a comfortable hotel in Cusco.
 - *Accommodation is in double, twin, and triple rooms.

Meals

- **4 Breakfasts, 3 Lunches, and 1 Dinner**
- **Water on the trail**
We'll provide you with 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).
- **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 per person**
To avoid the use of plastic bags that contaminate our environment, we'll give you a cloth bag for your snacks.

Transportation

- **Private Transport**
 - Day 1: You will be picked up from your hotel in the morning and will travel in our private transportation to Quesiuno, the starting point of the Rainbow Mountain Trek.

- Day 2: Private transport from the end point of the Rainbow Mountain Trek to Cusco.
- Day 3: Roundtrip private transport for the Huchuy Qosqo Hike.
- Day 4: Roundtrip private transport between Cusco and Ollantaytambo train station.
- **Round-Trip Train Tickets Ollantaytambo - Aguas Calientes (Day 4)**
- **Round-Trip Bus Ticket Aguas Calientes - Machu Picchu**
- **Cargo Mules (Rainbow Mountain Trek)**
While trekking, 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.

Permits & Entrance Tickets

- **Entry Ticket for the Ausangate Trek**
- **Entry to the Rainbow Mountain and the Red Valley**
- **Entry to Andahuaylillas Church**
- **Entry to Huchuy Qosqo Archaeological Site**
- **Entry Ticket to Machu Picchu Archaeological Site**



What is NOT Included

* Extras and important equipment

You will need a sleeping bag to camp. Walking sticks are optional but highly recommended. If you don't have them, don't worry, you can rent them with Ausangate Peru.

- Sleeping bag: US\$ 10.00
- Walking poles (pair): US\$ 10.00

* Huayna Picchu Mountain

You can climb the famous mountain always seen in the photos behind the site of Machu Picchu. It's 45 minutes uphill, and coming down can be scary if you fear heights. You can take this excursion after concluding your guided tour in Machu Picchu. Due to high demand, permission must be issued at least one month in advance. Consider that there could be changes to protect your integrity, mainly due to weather conditions.

- The Huayna Picchu Mountain ticket has an extra cost of US\$ 60.00 per person.

* Machu Picchu Mountain

Machu Picchu Mountain is another of the mountains that surround the archaeological site of Machu Picchu. It offers less steep, wider, and visually less frightening trails than Huayna Picchu, and it takes 1.5 hours to reach the top. This walk

requires an entrance ticket which we can secure for you if requested in advance.

- The Machu Picchu Mountain ticket has an extra cost of US\$ 60.00 per person.

* Meals not indicated

- Day 2: Dinner
- Day 3: Dinner
- Day 4: Lunch and Dinner

* Personal Hiking Gear

* Travel Insurance

* Tips for our staff

Tipping is the standard in any excursion in Peru. Although we pay good salaries to our team, something extra is always welcome, especially considering the hard work they do.

* Additional costs or delays beyond our control

Landslides, bad weather conditions, itinerary modifications due to a safety concern, illness, pandemics, government policy changes, political instability, strikes, an act of God, etc.

What Should you Bring

Essential packing list

- Duffle Bag
- Daypack

Documents

- Original Passport

Clothing

- Underwear
- Base Layer
- Trekking Shirts
- Hard Shell Jacket and Rain Gear
- Insulated Jacket
- Fleece Jacket
- Trekking Shorts and Trousers

Headgear

- Hat for Sun Protection
- Head Band or Beanie
- Neck Gaiter or Balaclava

Hands

- Inner Gloves
- Outer Gloves

Footwear

- Hiking Boots
- Trainers (Trekking shoes / sandals)
- Hiking Socks
- Thermal Socks
- Gaiters

Important Accessories

- Sleeping Bag
- Trekking Poles
- Sunglasses
- Headlamp
- Water Bottle or Hydration Bladder
- Camera / Videocamera
- Notebook / Journal and Pen



Personal Gear and Medications



* **Trekking Towel:**

A small to medium sized hiking towel can come in great use. LifeVentures or Discovery provide good, quick-drying trekking towels.

* **Small Locks:**

To protect your belongings in your rucksack or duffle bag

* **Waterproof Ziplock Bags:**

These come in handy for storing important / valuable items like your money, a passport and electrical equipment

* **Isotonic Powder:**

Can be used to flavour your water nicely and helps replace electrolytes, improving energy levels and aiding water absorption. Here are some good Isotonic powdered drinks

* **Diamox:**

Also know as acetazolamide, is a medication that can be used as a prophylactic (preventative) solution for altitude sickness. It does not cure altitude sickness and should never therefore never be used as a method to continue ascending to high altitudes. It can however help prevent the onset of altitude sickness and is commonly used by high altitude climbers and trekkers.

* **General Medications:**

We recommend taking paracetamol or aspirin for headaches (a common altitude sickness symptom on the Salkantay Trek) and Imodium for diarrhoea (another common problem as food preparation can be a little unhygienic)

* **Basic First Aid Kit:**

If you are joining an organised trek, your guide will most likely be carrying a first aid kit. If you are hiking unsupported or independently then a first aid kit is a must. Here are some compact and good outdoor first aid kits: Outdoor First Aid Kits

* **Suncream / Lip balm:**

No one wants burnt skin or cracked lips! Be sure to bring 1 x suncream (SPF 30) and 1 x lip balm

* **Baby wipes:**

For quick and easy wet washes when no showers are in sight! bring 1 x baby wipes

* **Blister Plasters:**

The dreaded blisters! We recommend taking Compeed blister plasters

* **Hand Sanitizer:**

Great for disinfecting hands before and after eating, or when they get dirty during the hike

Our Hiking Team

Our Tour Guides

Your tour will be led by a trained and highly experienced professional with a very solid guiding background, years of hiking and wilderness experience, medical certifications, and a passion for leading people into unforgettable adventures.



Our Hiking Team **Our Cook**

After a challenging trek we know how important a good hot meal can be to prepare your body and warm you up. That's why on every trek with Salkantay Trekking we employ chefs with years of experience cooking on the trails so that they provide filling.



Our Hiking Team **Meals** What to Expect

All of our hiking tours include a diversity of tasty meals packed full of critical carbohydrates, proteins and fats. We carry foods that travel well in the backcountry – rice, pastas, lentils, beans, couscous, packaged meats, nuts, breads, oatmeal, granola.



Our Hiking Team

Our Horseman & Horses



Our Horseman and his horses are in charge of all our gear and will always await us within the safe and comfortable camp sites.





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