



The Rainbow Mountain & Red Valley

02 days | 01 night

Description



Visit the Divine Rainbow Mountain

If you're a good hiker, this program is for you. Prepare yourself, because in these two days, we'll cover the most important points of the Ausangate route and the South Valley of Cusco. Enjoy this tour surrounded by mountains, lakes, glaciers and the Vilcanota mountain range; your senses will be captivated at every turn. Pristine scenery with little human presence awaits you. You'll have the opportunity to reconnect with the mountains and with yourself. This route is a personal challenge and, once you've completed it, you'll be left with the satisfaction of having conquered.

This unforgettable experience brings us the most beautiful demonstration of colors! And although we don't all paint grand oil portraits, the artist we each have inside is just waiting to shudder at the beauty to come. We'll visit fantastic mountain passes

and, though it may be that we don't believe in God, soon we'll be feeling the necessity to thank someone for these beautiful pieces of artwork. We'll spend our first night in the outskirts of Surincocha, wrapped up in a magical cape of stars. Prepare yourself, because you'll have the opportunity to enter a VIP zone to admire this incredible creation: the Rainbow Mountain. There's no photo that can do justice to this landscape, and the best lenses are your very own eyes.

Enjoy, and save your energy because there's still more: our visit to the Andahuayllas cathedral. It will leave you speechless because it seems to portray the Divine Comedy of Dante Alighieri. Next comes another beautiful moment which is equally fascinating; it's Rumi Punku. By now, you ought to be convinced that this trip was for you. Find joy in it,

because we're going back to Cusco, but not before seeing the beautiful watercolor reflected in the wetlands of Huacarpay.

The background features a light gray map of a region with a complex coastline, including a large island at the top and a smaller one to the right. On the left side, there are detailed topographic contour lines. A solid teal horizontal line spans the width of the page, intersecting the text. The bottom of the image is a dark gray, textured area representing a mountain range, with a jagged black silhouette of peaks overlaid on it.

Full Itinerary

Day 01

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



The Sky's The Limit

We'll leave Cusco at 4 AM in private transportation that will take us three and a half hours away to the town of Quesiuino (4,376 m / 14,357 f) where we'll have breakfast. Before starting our day, we'll share a brief introduction to present the chef and porter that will accompany us during the trek. We'll start uphill and arrive three hours later to the Puca Pass (4,870 m / 15,977 f), and we'll enjoy one of the most impressive views of the turquoise lagoons. You'll see the entire extension of the Ausangate snowcap, and its energy will help you recharge.

After a well-deserved rest, we'll go downhill an hour and a half, surrounded by impressive vistas and colorful hills that will let us know we're very close to the Rainbow Mountain. We will see llamas and alpacas all around until we get to Anantapata

(4,750 m / 11,614 f) where we will have lunch.

We'll then continue uphill two hours to the Warmisaya Pass (4,985 m / 16,355 f) and appreciate the striking colors that dazzle every visitor. Lastly, we'll continue downhill for 45 minutes until arriving at our campsite, known as Surinecocha (4,800 m / 15,748 f).



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

Camping altitude:

4,800 meters / 15,748 feet

Maximum altitude:

4,985 meters / 16,355 feet

Climate:

Dry, cold and windy

01 Adventure in the andes

02 Puca pass

03 Warmisaya pass

Day 02

Surinecocha > Rainbow Mountain > Red Valley Viewpoint > Llacto > Andahuaylillas > Rumi Punku > Huacarpay Wetlands > Cusco



The Impressive Rainbow Mountain

We will enjoy a delicious breakfast to start the day. We'll then fill our water bottles and slowly make our way two hours uphill to warm up. We'll approach the Rainbow Mountain (5,100 m / 16,732 f) and take our time to enjoy this really special and beautiful landscape. Next, we'll go down to the viewpoint of the Red Valley to see how this creation of Mother Earth comes to life in the perfect contrast between the red colors and the green color of the valley. We'll continue gradually down the mountain for an hour until arriving in Llacto (4,630 m / 15,190 f) and having a well-deserved rest.

We'll say goodbye to the team who has accompanied us during these two days and travel an hour and a half by car to Andahuaylillas (3,122 m / 10,242 f) to visit its famous cathedral, known as the Sistine of the Americas.

After that, we'll return to our vehicle to travel 20 minutes to Rumi Punku. Finally, we'll go downhill 45 minutes to the wetlands of Huacarpay (3,030 m / 9,940 f), the perfect place for observing migratory birds, and we will enjoy the last lunch prepared by our talented chef. Lastly, we'll return to Cusco again after an hour and a half, taking the best memories of this journey with us.



Day Facts

Meals:

Breakfast and lunch

Level of difficulty:

Moderate

Hiking distance:

9.5 km / 5.90 miles

Hiking time:

7 hours

Starting altitude:

4,800 meters / 15,748 feet

Minimum altitude:

3,030 meters / 9,940 feet

Maximum altitude:

5,100 meters / 16,732 feet

Climate:

Dry, cold and windy

01 Rainbow Mountain

02 Rainbow Mountain

03 Red valley

The background features a light gray map of a region with a complex coastline and topographic contour lines. A dark gray silhouette of a mountain range is positioned at the bottom of the frame. Two horizontal teal lines are placed on either side of the word 'Packing' in the title.

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**

- 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.

- **Satellite Phone**

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

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.

Meals

- **2 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, and 1 Dinner**

Our chef prepares the best dishes in the middle of the mountains. We respect all diets (vegetarian, vegan, or special menus are available at no extra cost). Meals include breakfast, lunch, dinner, and complimentary hot drinks and snacks.

- **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).

- **Wake up tea**

You'll wake up with a cup of hot coca tea! Our staff will bring it to your tent so you can warm up before you start your day.

- **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.

- **Hygiene Products**

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

Transportation

- **Private Transport**

All transportation is included in this tour. We'll pick you up from your hotel and after the end of the trip, we'll drop you back at the door of your hotel in Cusco.

- **Cargo Mules**

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**



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

✦ Day 2 Dinner

✦ Personal Hiking Gear

✦ Travel Insurance

✦ Tips for our staff

Tipping is usual on any excursion in Peru. Although we pay good salaries to our entire team, something extra is always welcome, especially considering the hard work they do. Typically, group participants collect their tips to hand out to the horsemen and chefs together.

✦ 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 known 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 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.





www.ausangateperu.com

✉ info@ausangateperu.com

📍 Triunfo Street 346, main Square of Cusco, Perú

☎ +51 958 191 179