



The --- Rainbow Mountain Machu Picchu

03 days | 02 nights

Description



Journey through the Mountains and the Sacred Valley

Dear traveler, in this new tour option, we offer to help you visit three of the most popular places in recent times. One of them became famous by going viral on social networks. Its beauty is due to its geological formation and relief weathering which, as time passed, came to light because of snowfall in the area; we're talking about the already well-known Rainbow Mountain, or Vinicunca! You'll be dazzled by its natural charm!

On the other hand, we have a magical place that needs no presentation since it has been and continues to be a fantastic place connecting man and nature, a wonder that all will recognize on visiting it. Being there, there's nothing more than a constant feeling of speechlessness. We're talking about none other than the sacred city of Machu Picchu.

And this beautiful journey can't be complete without taking a spin around the magnificent Sacred Valley.

Our trip will start early. Take full advantage of your breakfast, because we're going up to the Puca Pass. Enjoying our first few hours of hiking, we'll surely treasure every moment as we then descend toward Anantapata. After lunch, another beauty awaits us: Warmisaya. In the evening, we'll get prepared to see the precious Rainbow Mountain, or Vinicunca, the next morning.

This gift from Mother Nature is so lovely; she allows us to be present in this place and to gaze upon the charm of the Rainbow Mountain. Remember to fully enjoy and take advantage of your time and to take the most incredible pictures. They will be your souvenirs from this moment.

Later on, we'll feel the change in climate as our fabulous journey takes us to Llacto and toward the valley.

The Sacred Valley receives us with a magnificent viewpoint. We'll go into her depths to visit Ollantaytambo and learn about her past of war and resistance. Prepare yourself, because this is the start of a beautiful ending; tomorrow, everything will make sense when you finally visit the invaluable Machu Picchu who will receive you in her heart, the town of Aguas Calientes. Lastly, you'll return to Cusco, very content from having had a super good time.

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 > Quesiuno > Puca Pass > Anantapata > Warmisaya Pass > Surinecocha



The Apu Ausangate and her Natural Beauty

Today, one of the most colorful hikes in Cusco awaits us. We'll leave at 4:00 AM with the characteristic cold of the region, so we recommend you are wrapped up well. We'll arrive at the community of Quesiuno (4,376 m / 14,357 f) to have a delicious breakfast. In this three-hour trip full of impressive views and accompanied by herds of llamas and alpacas, we'll understand that the mountains of the Andes originate on the border between the regions of Cusco and Puno.

Continuing on, a short uphill hike awaits us on a gradually ascending trail leading to the Puca Pass (4,870 m / 15,977 f). At this point, we'll enjoy a traditional glacier scene and turquoise lagoons known as Pucacochas (red lagoons) and the majestic Ausangate which shares with us its radiant energy. After considering

this wonder of nature, we'll go down an hour and a half to have lunch in Anantapata (4,750 m / 11,614 f).

After a well-earned rest, we'll continue ascending two hours to the Warmisaya Pass (4,985 m / 16,355 f) where we can grab our first glances at the mountain range of Vinicunca, which houses the treasure of the Rainbow Mountain. We will then take a steep downhill trail for 45 minutes to our campsite in Surinecocha (4,800 m / 15,748 f).



Day Facts

Meals:

Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Level of difficulty:

Moderate

Lodging:

Campsite

Hiking distance:

11 km / 6,8 miles

Hiking time:

7 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 Ausangate Mountain

02 Puca Pass

03 Trek to Ausangate Mountain

Day 02

Surinecocha > Rainbow Mountain > Llacto > Taray Viewpoint > Urco Archeological Center > Ollantaytambo (Pinkuylluna Mountain)



The Valley at the Foot of the Andes

Today, we'll set foot on Rainbow Mountain, so we'll have to wake up very early to enjoy our breakfast. We'll start gradually uphill on a picturesque trail, a multicolored scene of pure energy. Once we're there, we'll receive the charming view that the sunrise over the Rainbow Mountain (5,100 m / 16,732 f) offers us at the highest point on our trek. We'll look out over this natural wonder without the crowds since we'll be the first to arrive. We'll learn so many things, thanks to our guide who'll explain everything about the ancestors of the local people and the relationship between humans and the mountains.

Afterwards, we will start downhill for an hour and a half to Llacto (4,630 m / 15,190 f). From here, we'll board our transportation that will take us two hours away to have lunch at the Taray

Viewpoint (3,150 m / 10,334 f), located at the head of the Sacred Valley of the Incas. This incredible place will give you a great opportunity to see gorgeous landscapes in the Peruvian Andes.

Continuing our journey through the Sacred Valley of the Incas, we'll go along the right side of the Wilcamayu River (sacred river) until we get to Ollantaytambo (2,792 m / 9,160 f). Our private transportation will take us to Urco (2,900 m / 9,514 f), an archeological complex dedicated to water worship. We'll explore the town, enjoying our last hike to the Inca granaries, called Qolqas (2,950 m / 9,678 f), located in the mountain of Pinkuylluna. There, you'll have an impressive view of the archeological complex of Ollantaytambo. Finally, we'll prepare for a repairing night of rest after a delicious dinner.



Day Facts

Meals:

Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Level of difficulty:

Moderate

Lodging:

Hotel

Hiking distance:

7.5 km / 4.66 miles

Hiking time:

4 hours

Starting altitude:

4,800 meters / 15,748 feet

Minimum altitude:

2,792 meters / 9,160 feet

Maximum altitude:

5,100 meters / 16,732 feet

01 Urco Archeological Center

02 Rainbow Mountain

03 Taray Viewpoint

Day 03

Ollantaytambo > Aguas Calientes > Machu Picchu > Cusco



Machu Picchu

before
Your Eyes

We'll leave early from the train station in Ollantaytambo and travel for an hour and a half. The train will take us past the Urubamba valley and, on the way, we'll enjoy scenic landscapes. We'll get to the town of Machu Picchu, known as Aguas Calientes, where we'll enjoy our breakfast.

From here, we'll take a bus up to the entrance of the citadel of Machu Picchu. When we get there, we'll have time to use the bathrooms before going in. Inside the complex, you'll be stunned by the immense beauty and mysticism of this setting, in which seems like time hasn't really passed; it's as if life itself stood still in these magical mountains.

The tour of the citadel will be personalized thanks to a guide who will take you to the most important points. You will feel as though you

were walking right beside the very Incas who were once here. The citadel is large, so the guided tour will last two or three hours, enough time to see the main sites of these sacred grounds. After fulfilling your dream of visiting Machu Picchu, we'll return to the town of Aguas Calientes the same way we came - by bus.

You'll have lunch and a couple free hours in the town before boarding the return train to Ollantaytambo where private transportation will be waiting to take you back to Cusco.



Day Facts

Meals:

Breakfast and lunch

Level of difficulty:

Moderate

Hiking distance:

1.5 km / 0.93 miles

Hiking time:

2 hours

Minimum altitude:

2,792 meters / 9,160 feet

Maximum altitude:

3,400 meters / 11,154 feet

01 Machu Picchu

02 Machu Picchu

03 Machu Picchu

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 text.

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)**
 - 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 Ollantaytambo (1 Night)**

Meals

- **3 Breakfasts, 3 Lunches, and 2 Dinners**
- **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 (Days 1 and 2)**
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'll be picked up from your hotel in the morning and will travel by 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 Ollantaytambo.
 - Day 3: Private transport from

Ollantaytambo train station to your hotel in Cusco.

- **Train Tickets**
 - Day 3: From Ollantaytambo to Aguas Calientes
 - Day 3: From Aguas Calientes to Ollantaytambo
- **Cargo Mules (Rainbow Mountain)**
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**
- **Entry Ticket to Machu Picchu Archaeological Site**



What is NOT Included?

✖ Boleto Turistico or Cusco Tourist Ticket

This ticket is required to access many of the most popular attractions in Cusco and the Sacred Valley, including archaeological sites and museums (applies to day 2).

- From PEN 70.00 (US\$ 20.00) to PEN 130.00 (US\$ 40.00) per person.

✖ 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 3: 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:**

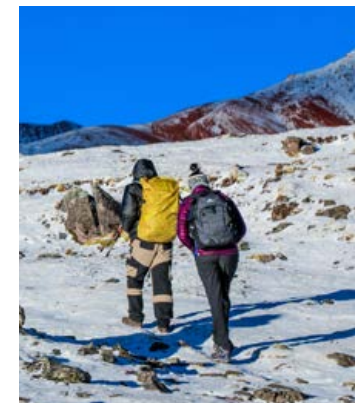
The dreaded blisters! We recommend taking Compeed blister plasters

✦ **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.





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