



### City tour, Sacred Valley and Machu Picchu 3 days and 3 nights included

Day 1 you will have a combined afternoon excursion from around 2.00 p.m until 6.45 p.m. visiting the city of Cusco and the surrounding areas. You will visit the Sacred Valley of the Inkas on day 2 before visiting the Machu Picchu ruins and returning to Cusco on Day 3.



#### Itinerary Day one

You will be picked up from your hotel at approximately 1.30 pm to begin the tour at 2.00 pm. Then we will visit:

**The Cathedral** - The **Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption of the Virgin**, also known as **Cusco Cathedral**, is the mother church of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Cusco. The cathedral is located on the Plaza de Armas. Building was completed in 1654 almost a hundred years after construction began. The Cathedral has become a major repository of Cusco's colonial art. It also holds many archeological artifacts and relics. The cathedral was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site under the City of Cuzco listing in 1983.



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**Temple of the Sun (Koricacha)** – The premier temple of the Inka began around 1200AD. Between 1438 and 1471 it was given a major remodel adding gold plates to the walls and floors, life size gold and silver statues of the gods to their individual sanctuaries and a golden garden and courtyard. The Spanish stripped it bare and melted the metals, destroyed much of the building and erected a church and convent.

**Sacsayhuaman** – A walled complex near Cusco. There is a legend which says the mountains, earth and wind helped carry the boulders to build Sacsayhuaman, it was built with supernatural power. The reality is the Inkas built it with their own hands.

**Q'enko** – Part of the Sacsayhuaman archaeological park. Q'enko is located on Socorro Hill and used to be a religious spot of the Inkas where they performed rituals.

**Puca Pucara** – Not the most impressive ruins in the region however the sights offer excellent views of the Cusco valley and glacier formations to the South. It's believed that Puca Pucara was an Inkan military checkpoint between Cusco and Antisuyo. Some of the features include watchtowers, aqueducts, warehouse rooms and a series of rectangular containment structures.

**Tambomachay** – A place where ceremonies took place, thanking God for water and precious gifts, it grows and giving life to all creatures of the universe.

#### Included in the price

- Entrance to Qoricancha 10 soles
- Tourist bus
- Bilingual Guide Spanish/English

#### Not included in the price

- General tourist ticket - Foreigners 130 soles
- Entrance to the Cathedral 25 soles

#### Necessary items to bring

- Hat
- Sun block
- Camera
- Bottle of water
- Rain poncho



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## Day two

Around 8.30 a.m. we will pick you up from your accommodation in Cusco, if it is located in the city center otherwise we will meet in the Plaza de Armas, in order to visit the Sacred Valley of the Inkas.

You will visit the long valley of the Urubamba River and Pisac ruins. This is some of the best stonework you will see in Peru or elsewhere spanning a kilometer or 2 along a mountain ridge at 3250m.

You will also visit a typical market (only Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday) where people from all over the highlands offer their products, then you will have a buffet lunch in the city of Urubamba. You will then visit the Ollantaytambo ruins. The huge steep terraces which guard Ollantaytambo's spectacular Inka ruins mark one of the few places where the Spanish conquerors lost a major battle. Though Ollantaytambo was a highly effective fortress, it also served as a temple. A finely worked ceremonial centre is at the top of the terracing.

Connection from Ollantaytambo to Aguas Calientes (Machu Picchu town) where you will stay overnight.

**Important – After finishing the visit to Ollantaytambo, the passengers must leave the group and head to the train station of Ollantaytambo, it takes 12 minutes to walk there, you must register 30 minutes before the train leaves. At 7.00 p.m. the train leaves from Ollantaytambo to Aguas Calientes where we will arrive at 9.00 p.m. There a member of the hostel staff is going to pick you up and take you to the hostel where your tour guide will give you a briefing for Machu Picchu.**

## Day three

You will meet with your guide very early and you will take the bus that will take you on a journey of 30 minutes, climbing a zigzag path, to the incredible Machu Picchu. The tour includes a guided tour of the Citadel, visiting the Main Plaza, the Circular Tower, the Sacred Sun Dial, the Royal Quarters, the Temple of three windows and various cemeteries around for more than two hours. After that you will have free time to continue visiting the ruins on your own. We recommend:

- Visiting the Temple of the Moon – to get to the small Temple of the Moon, you take a plunging path down past Huayna Picchu. The trail is easy to follow but involves steep sections, a ladder and an overhanging cave where you have to bend over to get back. The spectacular trail drops and climbs steeply before plunging into the cloud forest. Suddenly, you reach a clearing where the small, very well made ruins are found.
- The Inka bridge – on the other side of the ruins, a scenic but level walk from the Caretaker Hut to the Funerary Rock which takes you right past the top of the terraces and out along a narrow, cliff clinging trail to the Inka drawbridge. In less than half an hour's walk, the trail gives you a good look at cloud-forest vegetation and an entirely different view of Machu Picchu. You will have to



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be content with photographing the bridge from behind a barrier a few hundred metres above it, as someone crossed the bridge a while back and tragically fell to their death.

- Intipunku (Sun gate) – looking at the hill behind you as you enter the ruins, you can see both the trail and Intipunku. This hill, called Machu Picchu, or ‘old peak’ gives the site its name. It takes about an hour to reach Intipunku.
- Huayna Picchu Mountain at 10:00 a.m. which usually takes around 3 hours. Huayna Picchu mountain is the most famous of several short walks around Machu Picchu, the climb up the steep mountain of Huayna (also spelt Wayna) Picchu is located at the back of the ruins. At first glance, it appears a difficult climb but, despite the steep ascent, it’s not technically that hard. The scramble, which takes anything from 45 to 90 minutes, takes you through a short section of the Inka tunnel.

After finishing your visit to Machu Picchu you will have to take the bus down to Aguas Calientes for lunch (not included) and if you want you can visit the town’s hot springs (admission 10 soles not included).

In the afternoon o 7:00 p.m. or 6:35 p.m.we will take the train to Ollantaytambo and then take the bus to Cusco.

Arrival in Cusco City at 11:00 p.m..

#### **Included in the price**

- Expedition Class Train (Ollantaytambo – Aguas Calientes - Ollantaytambo)
- Bus Aguas Calientes - Machu Picchu - Aguas Calientes
- Entrance ticket to Machupicchu
- Spanish/English speaking guide
- 1 night accommodation in Aguas Calientes breakfast included
- Tour to the Sacred Valley

#### **Not included in the price**

- Touristic Ticket
- Lunch “buffet” 40 soles Maizal Restaurant in the Sacred Valley
- Entry to the mountain Huayna Picchu (USD \$ 12.00)
- Entrance to the Hot Springs (S / 10.00 soles)
- All meals
- Taxi to the hotel upon arrival in Cusco.
- Snacks, water, tips.



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### **We recommend**

- Wear tennis shoes or sneakers, bring the original passport.
- Drink fluids especially during the walk.
- Long pants and shorts.
- Several shirts.
- Sweaters and jackets.
- Bring rain poncho
- Camera.
- Insect repellent and sunscreen.
- Bottle of water.
- A small backpack
- Gloves, scarf, hat and sunglasses

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