

AMAZON TRAILS PERU



CACHICATA TREK with MACHU PICCHU

4 days - min. 2 persons

This Andean trek takes us through beautiful scenery of the Sacred Valley with Inca sites and snow capped mountains - highest point: 4450 m

DAY 1 : CUSCO TO SOQMA TO PEROLNIYOC TO RAYAN:

Pick up at your hotel at 6:00 am. Our minibus takes us through the market town of Izcuchaca and onwards to the village of Huarcocondo, with great views of the Veronica and Salkantay mountains. After about 2 hours we reach the village of Soqma, at 3200 m (10500 ft). Here we meet the horses and horsemen. While we have breakfast our staff packs the horses and we start walking uphill for about 1 hour 45 min. towards Perolniyoc. This community is known for its inca site and an impressive waterfall; we have time to enjoy the waterfall and the surroundings. Afterwards we walk one more hour to reach the village of Perolniyoc, we see the inca sites of Q'anabamba and Willkarakay and explore the ruins of Patallaqta with our guide. After lunch our hike takes us through a fertile valley, where the locals cultivate different varieties of potatoes and quinoa. In the afternoon, we arrive at the community of Rayan (3,700 m). This is a farming area and we may visit a local family and get an impression of rural life. You can see the typical adobe houses, where local families keep guinea pigs. We have our tea time at the camp. Later we enjoy dinner and our guide briefs us for the next day.

Hiking distance: approx. 9 km

DAY 2: FROM RAYAN TO CACHICATA :

Today we have breakfast at 06:00 am and then start trekking up through a valley where we can see native crops. We climb up for about 3 1/2 hours to reach the first pass Pukaccasa at 4380 m (14,370 ft.). We take a rest and enjoy the beautiful views, afterwards we descend for about 40 minutes to a nice place where we have lunch and a little break. From here our trail continues for two hours walking up and down. We then walk on a high plateau (altiplano) through a strange landscape with glacial moraine (piles of rock from the ice age) to the second and highest pass of the trek named Kuychiccasa pass at 4,450 m (14,665 ft). Again, we take a moment to rest and see the Sacred Valley below and several snowcapped mountains like: La Veronica, Chicon, Pituiray and others. Then, we start our descent of about 2 hours to the archaeological site of Inti Punku (sun gate). We stop for a snack and learn more about the Incas before we continue descending for 1 hour and 30 min to Cachicata, which was a stone quarry used by the Incas. We set up our camp nearby and enjoy the scenery with a hot drink.
Hiking distance: approx. 13 km

DAY 3 : FROM CACHICATA TO OLLANTAYTAMBO & TRAIN TO AGUAS CALIENTES :

After breakfast, we explore the area of Cachicata. Probably stones for the nearby fortress of Ollantaytambo have been prepared here. We can see buildings as well as the quarry with carved stones. We also see small chullpas which are burial towers or tombs. After the tour, you have free time to explore. Then, we have an early lunch to then descend through a wide trail for about 2 hours to reach the town of Ollantaytambo. Here we can have a look around the old town or just relax until we take the afternoon train to Aguas Calientes (2050m). Reception upon arrival and briefing with the guide about the visit to Machu Picchu the next morning. Night in a Hostal (DWB).
Hiking distance: approx. 11 km

DAY 4: MACHU PICCHU AND RETURN TO CUSCO :

We meet our guide early to walk up (aprox. 1 hour 15 min.) or take the bus (not included) up to Machu Picchu (2400m); the site opens at 6 am. We start with our guided tour of the archeological complex (2 – 2,5 h). Afterwards we have free time to explore on our own and enjoy the views, or maybe climb Wayna Picchu. In the afternoon we return to Aguas Calientes to take the train back to the Sacred Valley or Cusco, transfer to your hotel.

Note: This itinerary is variable and may be modified according to the progress of the group, weather conditions etc.

Tour Price includes:

- private transport: Cusco – Soqma
- English speaking, professional guide for the trek and Machu Picchu
- all meals (till lunch of day 3), boiled water for drinking (vegetarian meals on request)
- cook and cooking equipment
- camping equipment (quality double tents and mats, dining tent, tables and chairs)
- horses to carry food, cooking & camping equipment + 5 kg of personal luggage p. p.
- emergency horse (with saddle)
- entrance fee to Machu Picchu
- First Aid Kit
- one night in hostel in Aguas Calientes (dwb) including breakfast
- tourist train ticket from Ollantaytambo to Aguas Calientes and back
- transfer from train station to Cusco

Not included:

- sleeping bag (for rent at our office in Cusco)
- hiking poles (optional)
- drinking water (partially, especially on day 4)
- entrance fee to Wayna Picchu (18 US\$ p.p., limited spaces)
- dinner and lunch in Aguas Calientes
- extra horse for personal luggage

maximum group size: 6 persons

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