

# AMAZON TRAILS PERU



## INKA TRAIL to Machu Picchu - 4 days

group size: 4 to 8 persons

This is the most popular and frequented Trail on old Inka paths to Machu Picchu. Spaces are limited and trail booking at Peru's Cultural Institute is not changeable or refundable! Highest point: 4200m.

**DAY 1 : CUSCO TO HUAYLLABAMBA (12 km) :** At 6 am we pick you up from your hotel to travel to the Sacred Valley and to km 82, starting point of the trail. Today, after 3 hours by private bus, we walk about 5 hours. During the trek you see ruins of the Inca hill fort of Huillca Raccay and the archaeological site of Llactapata (2600 m), where we stop for lunch. Llactapata means 'upper town' in Quechua. Then we descend to the Cusichaca River. From parts of this trail there are great views of the Cordillera Urubamba (Urubamba mountain range) and the snow capped Veronica Peak (5,860m). Following the bank of the river we arrive to our camp at Huayllabamba (3000 m, Quechua for 'grassy plain') or at another camp nearby (the 'Unidad de Gestión de Machu Picchu' gives out the camp sites once we get the Trail permit).

**DAY 2 : HUAYLLABAMBA TO PACAYMAYO (10 km) :** At 6 a.m. wake up tea in your tent to then have breakfast and start walking early. Today we walk about 7 hours, first climbing up from Huayllabamba following the bank of the Llulluchayoc river for about 1 hour to 'Tres Piedras' (three stones) and a small bridge over the Huayruro river. Further on we enter a beautiful Polylepis forest and pass a waterfall. We climb up for about 3 hours, reaching the tree line and Llulluchapampa (3,680m). We continue another 1½ hours climbing to the first and highest pass of the trail, Abra de Huarmiwañusca ('Dead Woman's Pass') at 4,200m. Prepare for the change of temperature! The descent from the pass is steep, following the trail on the left side of the valley and arriving to the campsite at Pacamayo (3,600m).

**DAY 3 : PACAYMAYO TO WIÑAYWAYNA (15 km) :** From Pacaymayo we climb up for 1 hour to the circular ruins of Runkuracay that overlook the valley. Another 45 minute hike will bring us to the top of the second pass: Abra de Runkuracay (4,000m). The descent is steep; we walk on Inca stone steps up to Sayacmarca ruins (3580 m, 'Inaccessible Town') that are protected on three sides by steep cliffs. The trail then climbs up to the 3rd pass (3,700m). From the pass we have an excellent view of snow-capped peaks such as the Salkantay (6,180m) and Veronica (5,860m). From here we continue to Puyupatamarca ruins ('Town in the Clouds'); our guide will explain about the ruins and Inca bath before arriving to the ruins. We continue on an impressive Inca staircase. Then, after about one hour of walking through cloud forest, we get to the camp at Wiñay Wayna ruins (2,650 m). It is about 7 hours walking today.

**DAY 4 : WIÑAYWAYNA TO MACHU PICCHU (6 km) AND CUSCO :** Wake up tea and breakfast at 4.30 a.m., to then walk down for about 1½ hours to Inti Punku (Sun Gate) and observe the sunrise above Machu Picchu. The first rays of the sun reach Machu Picchu at about 6:30 to 7 am. Then we walk down to the site (2,400 m) where we arrive at about 8.00 am and stow our backpacks away at the entrance. We now do the tour of the ruins (aprox. 2 hours) before more people arrive with the train. After the guided tour you have free time to explore Machu Picchu on your own, you can visit the Inca Bridge or if you have some energy left climb Wayna Picchu (extra ticket needed). You later walk down to Aguas Calientes town where you can buy your lunch (economic), alternatively there is a restaurant close to the ruins (buffet 40 US\$ p.p.). The return train leaves from Aguas Calientes in the afternoon. Upon arrival transfer to your hotel in Cusco.

#### THE SERVICE INCLUDES:

- Pickup at your hotel
- Private bus up to km 82
- Entrance fee to the Inca Trail and Machu Picchu for 4 days
- Official, English speaking guide
- Camping equipment, cooking equipment, dining tent, tables, chairs etc.
- Porters to carry food, camping + cooking equipment
- Oxygen tank, First Aid Kit & Medicine
- All meals until breakfast of day 4
- Snacks & drinks every day
- Water for washing every morning
- Tourist train from Aguas Calientes to Poroy or Ollantaytambo
- Transfer back to your hotel in Cusco

#### NOT INCLUDED:

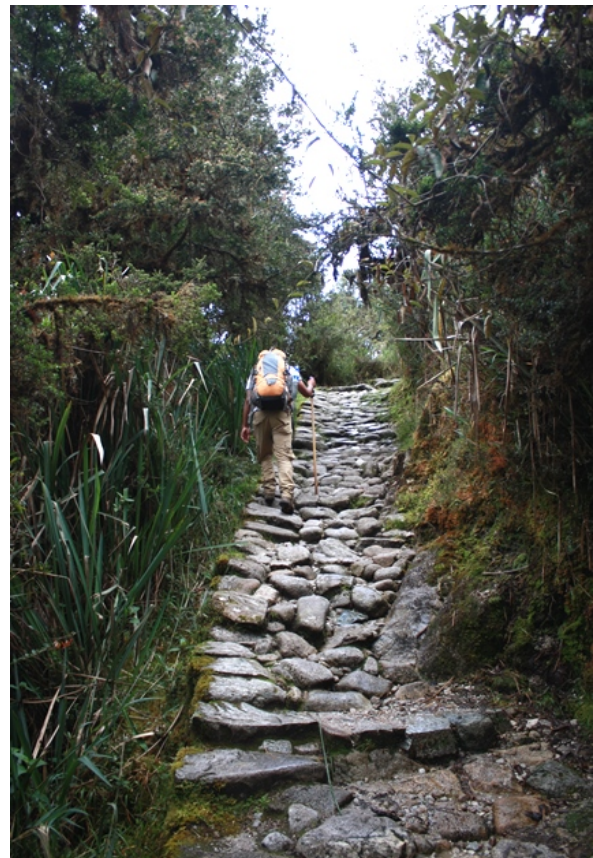
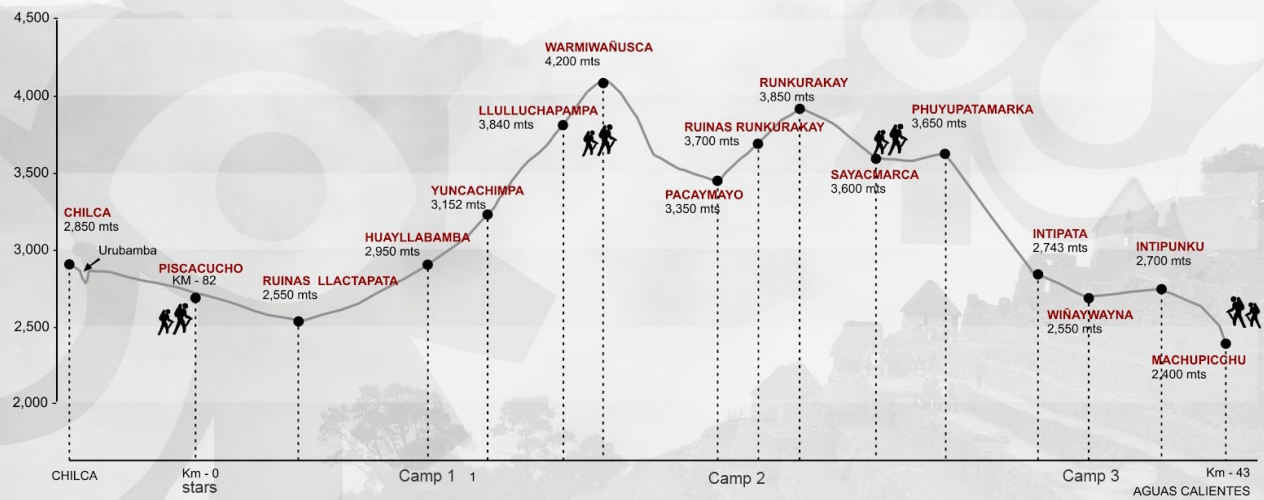
- Sleeping bag (for rent at our office in Cusco)
- hiking poles (optional)
- Tip for the porters & cook
- Entrance to Wayna Picchu (+ 70 US\$, limited spaces)
- Extra porter for personal luggage
- Micropur for additional drinking water (optional)
- Lunch in Aguas Calientes (day 4)
- Personal things
- Alcoholic drinks





## INCA TRAIL TO MACHU PICCHU 4 DAYS

### ALTITUDE MAP



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