

AMAZON TRAILS PERU



LARES VALLEY TREK with MACHU PICCHU

4 days - min. 2 persons

This is a trek through typical Andean landscape, passing by traditional villages, glacial lakes and snow capped mountains - highest point: 4700 m

DAY 1: CUSCO - HUARAN TO CANCHA CANCHA : We pick you up at 5:30 am to take you to the starting point of the trek in Huaran (3000 m) in the Sacred Valley; this is 1 ½ hours by private minibus. While we have a small breakfast the horsemen pack the horses and we start to walk northward. The trail climbs gently following the Cancha Cancha river towards the community of the same name. This walk through the valley is very impressive, we see cultivated fields and pass through old Polylepis forests; this type of vegetation is very interesting for bird life like Hummingbirds, Flycatchers and Tit tyrants. After about 5 hours we reach Cancha Cancha village, with its typical stone houses. We set up our camp at the village or a little bit further up, at about 3850 m.

DAY 2: CANCHA CANCHA TO QUISHUARANI or CUNCANI : After an early breakfast we continue up hill. This is the hardest day of the trek because we pass the highest point: the Pachacutec Pass at 4700 m. The view from here is overwhelming: we have the Pitusiray (5800m) and Sahuasiray snowcapped mountains right in front of us. Then, descending into the valley we pass by several glacial lakes, which are the habitat of Andean Ibis, Andean Goose and the rare Giant Coot. On this day we can see herds of alpacas, llamas and sheep and it is also possible to see Gray Brocket Deer, Viscachas, the Puna Hawk or maybe the impressive Andean Condor. This night we camp at 3800 m close to Quishuarani village. (If we arrive in Quishuarani early we can continue to the

second pass (Willcaccasa) today and camp near Cuncani.)

DAY 3: QUISHUARANI TO CUNCANI TO LARES AND OLLANTAYTAMBO : Today we start early to follow another valley and climb up to the second pass at Willcaccasa mountain, 4350 m for about 3 hours. Again the views of the Andes, turquoise lakes and beautiful valleys are impressive. We walk downhill passing by some other lakes and after 1½ to 2 hours we arrive at Cuncani village (3800 m). From here we continue downhill towards the Lares Valley and the hot springs where we can have a well deserved bath. Our bus picks us up to take us to Ollantaytambo train station in the afternoon. Here we take the train to Aguas Calientes. Reception upon arrival and briefing with the guide about the visit of Machu Picchu the next morning. Night in a Hostal (DWB).

DAY 4: MACHU PICCHU AND RETURN TO CUSCO : We meet our guide early to walk up or take the bus (not included) up to Machu Picchu; 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 – Huaran, Lares – Ollantaytambo
- 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)
- extra drinking water (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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