

# ANDES EXPERIENCE - HIKE TO MACHU PICCHU

## Day 1 Arrival in Cusco. Afternoon private walking tour

This morning you will fly from Lima to Cusco. On arrival to Cusco, our representative will meet you at the airport and take you to your hotel. The rest of the morning is free to relax and adjust to the altitude. In the afternoon you will have a walking tour of Cusco city. You will visit Nazarenas square, the artisans district of San Blas and its colonial church, on the way back to the main square, a visit to the famous 12 angle stone and of course the main square of Cusco. You will continue to the market of San Pedro, a vibrant, colourful market to give you an inside look at the local culture of Peru. After this visit, you will return to your hotel. The rest of the afternoon is free.

Overnight in Cusco  
No meals included

## Day 2 Morning Cusco nearby ruins tour

Morning at leisure to relax and explore on your own. In the afternoon your guide will pick you up from your hotel for a Half Day city tour. First we will visit the Cathedral of Cusco on the Plaza de Armas and continuously the temple of Qoricancha, also known as the temple of the Sun. After these visits, we will continue to the upper part of Cusco to visit several archaeological sites. The first stop will be at Sacsayhuaman, a ceremonial complex of the Incas. We will also visit Qenqo, Puka Pukara and Tambomachay. At the end, we will return to Cusco and drop you off at your hotel.

Overnight in Cusco  
Breakfast included

## Day 3 Chinchero, Maras, Moray - Afternoon horse back ride

Today we start early. First you will go to Chinchero town, located half of the way between Cusco and Urubamba (3760 m) which offers spectacular views of the surrounding mountains. You will continue your visit heading to Maras - a little adobe town that holds influences of the Spanish style of construction, here you will find the incredible salt mine of Maras, where you will see the process of extraction of salt, then you will continue to Moray - the magnificent agricultural terraces, thought to have been an Incan laboratory in order to investigate and acclimatize some plants to different climate conditions. You will continue your way to your restaurant for lunch. In the afternoon you will take a Peruvian Paso horse back ride through a section of the Sacred Valley, along the Urubamba river and through the vast farming areas and countryside trails. After the ride you will be transferred to your hotel in the Sacred Valley.

Overnight in the Sacred Valley  
Breakfast and Lunch included

## Day 4: Sacred Valley – Pisac village market and the ruins of Ollantaytambo

Today you will start your day excursion to the Sacred Valley of the Incas visiting the colourful handicraft market of Pisac, here you can enjoy a small typical Andean market which offers good opportunities to buy local handicraft. You will continue to Urubamba where a buffet lunch is served in a local restaurant. After lunch you will continue to Ollantaytambo where you will visit the Archaeological site which is an attractive little town located at the western end of the Sacred Valley. The town has been built on top of original Inca foundations and is the best surviving example of Inca town planning. It is located at the foot of amazing Inca ruins, which protected the strategic entrance to the lower Urubamba Valley. The religious area is at the top of a steep terracing which helped to provide excellent defense against the tribes from the jungle. At the end of your tour you will return to your hotel in the Sacred Valley.

Overnight in the Sacred Valley  
Breakfast and lunch included

## Day 5 Short Inca Trail to Machu Picchu

Today you will start your day early with a transfer to the train station of Ollantaytambo where you will take the train to the starting point of the trail. You will disembark at Km 104 to begin your hike through the recently discovered ancient Inca trail to Machu Picchu. You will cross a bridge over the Urubamba river to start climbing all the way up through very abundant vegetation, home for hundreds of bird and orchid species. We will leave the cloud forest at Wiñaywayna which is a beautiful ceremonial site divided into two sectors built with finely-carved stones fitted together with great precision. Then you will continue your hike to the Sun Gate where you will get breathtaking views of Machu Picchu. Here, the final stretch of the royal Inca trail will take you to the citadel, hidden in the dense vegetation for over four centuries and now uncovered for your appreciation. From the Sanctuary you will take the bus to Aguas Calientes town where you will spend the night in your hotel.

Overnight in Aguas Calientes town  
Breakfast and box lunch included

## Day 6: Guided tour of Machu Picchu

Today you will start early, after breakfast with your guide you will board the bus up to the citadel of Machu Picchu on time to enjoy the first rays of light over the citadel. Your guide will slowly show you around the main areas explaining theories about how this place was built and recounting myths and legends passed down over the centuries. After your tour, you will have plenty of time to look around or do some of the other treks which are available in the surrounding mountains. By noon it will be time for lunch in town.

At a convenient time you will board the return train to Ollantaytambo station where you will board a car to transfer you back to Cusco.

Overnight in Cusco  
Breakfast included

## Day 7 Day at leisure in Cusco

Day at leisure in Cusco for some exploration on your own.

Overnight in Cusco  
Breakfast included

## Day 8 Flight to Lima

In the morning it's time to say goodbye to Cusco, you will be transferred to the airport for your flight to Lima.

Breakfast included

End of our program

**Optional 1:** Transfer to Lima centre for afternoon Lima City tour. On your arrival to Lima our representative can pick you up from the exit gate and you should head straight over to leave your luggage at the airport storage. Then you will be taken to the drop off, pick up point in Miraflores in front of the Marriott Hotel. You have free time for lunch. At 1.45pm you will be met in front of Marriott hotel for your guided Lima city tour (group service or if you prefer it could be private, please consult to our sales representative). After your tour you will be dropped back to Marriott Hotel where you have free time until your evening scheduled transfer returning to the airport for your international flight.

**Optional 2:** Transfer and evening city tour with dinner: If you have time we have an evening city tour which includes a dinner show at a selected restaurant. We can organise a transfer returning to the airport for your international flight.