



Day 1 – Arrive Cusco / Overnight Cusco

Today is a free day allowing people to arrive at any time. We will have a welcome briefing and dinner today to give people the chance to get to know each other.

Accommodation – Hotel Tika Wasi or similar, <http://www.tikawasi.com/>

Meals - Dinner

Day 2 - Cusco City Tour / Pisac / Overnight Sacred Valley

In the afternoon, we will visit the San Blas artist quarter, one of the city's oldest neighborhoods where you will be treated to spectacular views of the city and have the chance to visit a small local gallery. From here we walk to the Qoricancha or Sun Temple but not before stopping to see the 12-angled stone, an amazing example of the Quechua's architectural prowess.

The Qoricancha was the most sacred building within the entire empire and here we will be able to appreciate the finest architecture in Cusco within the remaining Inca temples. However, as was customary, the Spanish built a church over this place of worship which allows you to appreciate the contrast in the two construction styles. We also visit the San Pedro market where they sell everything from exotic fruits to live frogs, medicinal plants and tourist souvenirs. This is the city's oldest market and despite the many tourists who now visit it is still the most important local market in the center. Our last stop today is the Cathedral. Built over a 100 year time frame, the cathedral is not only important because of its religious significance but because of the huge collection of religious artwork of the Cusquenian style which is a blend of Spanish art from the 17th century with Andean iconography.

After the tour we will pick our luggage up from the hotel and travel to the Sacred Valley of the Incas, stopping at Awanakancha, a community-run interpretation centre where we will learn about the South American camelids, traditional dyeing techniques and be able to see women weaving textiles typical of the area.

From here we continue half an hour to the village of Pisac, famous for its market, where hundreds of stalls crowd the central square -- marked by a small church, San Pedro el Apostolo, and massive *piñon* trees. We will share our time here between having lunch and checking out the wares.

When we have finished in the village, we will travel half an hour to the Pisac ruins, some of the finest and largest in the entire valley. Despite the excellent condition of many of the structures, little is conclusively known about the site's actual purpose. It appears to have been part city, part ceremonial centre, and part military complex. It might have been a royal estate of the Inca emperor (Pachacutec). It was certainly a religious centre and has the temples typical of important religious sites.



MAJESTIC PERU — TOURS —

Time dependent, we may be able to walk back down into town afterwards but your guide will discuss this with you. We will now travel through the Sacred Valley to arrive at our hotel for the evening in the Urubamba area.

Accommodation – Hotel Villa Urubamba or similar, <http://www.villaurubamba.com/eng/vu.htm>

Meals – Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 3 – Moray & Maras / Ollantaytambo / Overnight Sacred Valley

Start the day climbing to the plains of Maras for a visit to the Inca site of Moray. Although the exact use of this site is not known, it is believed to be an experimental agricultural site used to domestic crops. Its concentric circles are a marvel to the eye and the “flying” stairs that you will be able to experience are interesting architectural feature that are typical to rustic Inca constructions.

After this visit we will travel through farmlands to the town of Maras and then the pre-Inca salt pools. Fed by an underground spring of salty water, these pools and the methods used to extract the salt have been in existence since before the time of the Incas. You will explore the area and taste the salt, if you dare, not to mention take some pretty amazing photos of this surreal environment.

In the afternoon we will visit the sleepy town of Ollantaytambo. Despite the awe-inspiring archaeological site and tourist buses that at times flood the streets, this town still moves slowly. They have original Inca or Quechua water channels that line the streets, a teeny main square with spectacular views and a host of small restaurants and café where you can sit and have a coffee. Our focus will be on visiting the ruins with our guide but you will have time for a wander through the streets to get a feel for this unique town.

The Maras & Moray tour can be done by bike as well with a picnic lunch. **This option would cost approximately \$40US per person more.

Accommodation – Hotel Villa Urubamba or similar, <http://www.villaurubamba.com/eng/vu.htm>

Meals – Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 4 – Sacred Valley / Km82 / Wayllabamba

At approximately 6.30am you will be picked up from your hotel and will travel to Piscacucho (2700m/8856ft above sea level), a community located at the 82nd kilometer of the Cusco –Machu Picchu railroad and the site of the trailhead for the trek. You will begin the hike crossing the bridge over the Urubamba River and walking along the south bank of the Urubamba River. Following the trail along a flat terrain, you will arrive to Miskay (2800m/9184ft above sea level), to then ascend and finally see from the highest part of the look-out, the impressive Inca city of



MAJESTIC PERU

— T O U R S —

Llactapata (2650m/8692ft above sea level). You will continue through the valley created by the Cusichaca River, and will climb gradually for about five hours until you reach the community of Wayllabamba (3000m/9840ft above sea level), where our first campsite is located. Along the way, you will enjoy spectacular views of the Vilcanota ridge on the opposite side of the Urubamba River, where the impressive Veronica peak reigns at 5832 meters above the sea level while also enjoying the diversity of flora and fauna that can be found along the way.

Accommodation – Camping

Meals – Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 5 – Wayllabamba – Pacaymayo

You will wake up at around 6:00am and after breakfast will begin the most difficult part of the trek, which consists of an abrupt and steep ascent that stretches for 9 km. Along this climb, the landscape changes from a more lush valley to the twisted trunks of the native queuña trees and finally puna, a dry and high grassland with little other vegetation). On the way to the first mountain pass, the Abra Warmihuañusca (Dead Woman's Pass – 4200m/13776ft above sea level), you may see domesticated llamas and alpacas grazing on the ichu, one of the few plants that grow at high altitude. You will also cross an area of cloud forest, which is the habitat for many different kinds of birds like hummingbirds and sparrows, and of the Andean bear also known as the Spectacled Bear. We recommend that today, your daypack be well stocked with candies, chocolates and coca leaves that will keep your sugar level high, and help with the altitude. Immediately after the pass, you will descend into the Pacaymayo valley (3600m/11808ft above sea level), where you will camp after approximately 7 hours of hiking for this day.

Accommodation – Camping

Meals – Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 6 – Pacaymayo to Wiñaywayna

This day is the longest but also the most impressive and the most interesting, due to the number of archaeological sites and the lush cloud forest area that you will cross, rich in Andean flora and fauna. From Pacaymayo you will climb to the second pass, the Abra Runkurakay (3970m/13022ft above sea level). Halfway up, you will stop to visit the archaeological complex with the same name (Runkurakay). This site, located at 3800m/12464ft over the sea level, consists of a small oval structure that is believed to have served as a watchtower. After going over the pass, you will descend towards Yanacocha (Black Lagoon) and enter the cloud forest to finally arrive at Sayacmarca (3624m/11887ft above sea level). This is a beautiful complex made up of semicircular constructions, enclosures at different levels, narrow streets, liturgical fountains, patios and irrigation canals.

Continuing along a gentle ascent, you will arrive at the third pass, the Abra Phuyupatamarca (3700m/12136ft above sea level). Along this climb, you can appreciate the magnitude of the Incas' ancient engineering, by walking along paths seemingly hanging from the side of the



MAJESTIC PERU

— T O U R S —

mountain, and seeing rocks fit together like the pieces of a jigsaw puzzle, saving the trail from the erosion due to the precipitous Andean geography. You will go through an Inca tunnel to later, arrive at the pass, and then continue on to the complex of the same name, Phuyupatamarca.

This is one of the most complete and best-preserved archaeological complexes along the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu, and is located on the highest point of a mountain. Phuyupatamarca means “town over the clouds” and the ethereal shroud of mist makes it easy to bury yourself in its mystery and in the moment. For this reason we will stop here for a short tour and so that you may take in the energy of the site and take the time to really be present in this experience.

You will continue the trek, descending the long stone stairways that lead you to Winay Wayna (2650m/8692ft above sea level), an impressive Inca complex made up of an agricultural center with numerous terraces, religious sector and urban sectors, close to where the camp is located. After visiting the impressive archaeological site, you will enjoy the farewell dinner at our camp.

Accommodation – Camping

Meals – Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 7 – Wiñaywayna to Machu Picchu

On this fourth and last day, you will wake up at 4.00am to leave Wiñay Wayna, an hour later climb to the Inti Punku, or The Sun Gate. This will take an hour of hiking along a trail of flat stones on the edges of cliffs in highland jungle. From this fabulous spot, you will see the first rays of sun coming over the mountains and shining down over the sacred citadel of Machu Picchu. From the Inti Punku you will descend towards Machu Picchu, and 40 minutes later you will enter to the citadel from the highest point through the “House of the Guardians”. You must then exit through the control point at the main gate of the site where you will register and leave your backpacks. You will immediately begin a complete guided tour of this amazing Inca citadel, taking approximately two hours. You will have free time to walk around, to climb Huayna Picchu and visit the Temple of the Moon, to climb Machu Picchu Mountain (both must be reserved at time of booking), where one can experience spectacular views of all of Machu Picchu, the valleys and mountains that surround it, or visit the fabulous Inca Bridge. In the afternoon, we will meet in the town of Aguas Calientes where, if you like, you can visit and relax in its hot springs. From here we take the train back to the city of Cusco, arriving after nightfall.

* The Departure and arrival times are approximate.

** Campsites are subject to change according to the designation of the governmental institution that regulates the use of the Inca Trail.

Accommodation – Hotel Tika Wasi or similar, <http://www.tikawasi.com/>

Meals – Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



MAJESTIC PERU — TOURS —

Day 8 – Free Day / Overnight Cusco

Today is free to more deeply explore the fascinating city of Cusco by wandering through its cobblestone streets or perhaps to just relax while enjoying a cup of locally-grown coffee. There are massages to be had, souvenirs to be purchased and food to be enjoyed. For those looking for a cultural experience, you might think about getting a coca leaf reading or participating in an Offering to Mother Earth ceremony for a deeper connection with the environment and yourself.

Accommodation – Hotel Tika Wasi or similar, <http://www.tikawasi.com/>

Meals – Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 9 – Cusco / Puerto Maldonado / Overnight Amazon Jungle Lodge

In the morning you will be transferred to the airport for your 30 minute flight to Puerto Maldonado. Upon arrival, you will be met your naturalist guide who may be meeting others from your group as well. Guides are assigned to a maximum of 10 people which means groups smaller than 10 people will be merged with other groups under one guide.

Transfer from the airport to the lodge's office where you will be able to store unnecessary luggage before transferring to the Tambopata River Port 20 kilometers away, entering the Native Community of Infierno. The port is a communal business. The lodge is a forty five minute boat ride, taking us into the Community's Primary Forest Private Reserve. You will receive an orientation talk upon arrival as the lodge manager welcomes you and briefs you with important navigation and security tips.

In the afternoon we head out into the jungle for a small walk in order to observe the flora such as immense Ironwood or Kapok trees and birds such as Trogons, quails and wild turkeys.

Dinner is served in the communal dining room. After dinner you can stay in the common area or head back to the complete quiet of your room. Once night falls we can also find spiders such as tarantulas and other nocturnal creatures.

Accommodation – Inotawa Lodge or similar, <http://www.inotawaexpeditions.com/>

Meals – Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 10 – Amazon Jungle Lodge

La Torre Clay Lick - We leave the lodge very early on the morning to go fifteen minutes upriver in order to observe the activity of the macaws, parrots, parakeets and the occasional mammal feeding on the earth. La Torre Clay Lick is a mud bank about four meters high and twenty meters wide crisscrossed with veins of mineral rich clay essential to the diet of these animals.

On site we have a hideout at a distance of thirty meters which keeps us hidden while at the same time allowing us an unobstructed view of the display in front of us. During the phenomenon we



MAJESTIC PERU

— T O U R S —

need to stick to the rules and guidelines set by our guide the previous evening. Returning to the lodge we will have breakfast and after a short rest head for Tres Chimbadas Lake.

Tres Chimbadas Lake - Its entrance is located fifteen minutes downriver from INOTAWA . We then walk about 45 minutes to the lake located deep in the jungle. We will pass an eco-tourism concession held by the native people of the Infierno community. They guard and maintain the area thanks also to the income generated by entry fees from tourists.

At the lake itself we will board a traditional catamaran with a single oar in order to move around on the lake following the route indicated by our guide. We can see luscious vegetation and birds such as Snakebirds, herons, kingfishers etc. We might also find reptiles and mammals, above all the illusive giant river otter. The lake happens to be the territory of a clan that can frequently be spotted. It is also possible to practice catch and release fishing and maybe catch a piranha.

Farm - In the area traditional agriculture is practiced. We will visit Don Aurelio and his family. This is a great opportunity to see harvest and try various exotic fruits from the amazon such as Copazu, Arazá, Pijuayo, Yucca, and Pineapple. There are also various herbs such as pallilo and false cilantro as well as a range of medicinal plants such as pinon, cana cana and piri piri that are traditionally and widely used by the local people.

The farms also create open spaces for papaya and banana plantations. This is the preferred habitat for birds such as silver beaked tanagers, orioles, oropendulas, toucanets and various woodpeckers. Nocturnal boat ride - At night we head out in the boat to enjoy ourselves and the sounds of the Amazonian night, we might see a thunderstorm spilling out on the horizon or marvel at constellations like the Southern Cross or Scorpion.

We are also carrying a powerful searchlight in case we come across some nocturnal animals such as caimans, bats, nightjars or capybaras on the banks and meanders of the Tambopata River.

Accommodation – Inotawa Lodge or similar, <http://www.inotawaexpeditions.com/>

Meals – Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 11 – Amazon Jungle Lodge / Puerto Maldonado

This morning you will return to the lodge's office in Puerto Maldonado where you will pick up the rest of your gear and wait for your transfer to the airport. Your guide will help you with your check-in for your onward flight. Services end at the Puerto Maldonado Airport.

**Please note that your jungle itinerary may vary depending on which lodge is available.

Accommodation – N/A

Meals – Breakfast

INCLUSIONS – All services are private

- Arrival and Departure Transfers with assistance
- 10 Nights of 2*/ 3* accommodation
- Private ground transport as listed in itinerary including the train from Machu Picchu
- Walking tour of Cusco
- Guided tour of Pisac Ruins & Market



MAJESTIC PERU

— T O U R S —

- Guided tour of Moray, Maras & Ollantaytambo
- 4-Day / 3-Night Inca Trail Trek including:
 - Permits
 - All camping gear including tents, foam mattresses, plates & cutlery, stools, tables, etc... except sleeping bags
 - Chef and if necessary, assistant cook based on group size
 - All meals which will be catered to dietary requirements, hot drinks and another refreshment served with meals, and boiled water to refill water bottles starting with dinner on Day 1
 - Water in the morning and before meals to wash up
 - First aid kit including an oxygen tank and guides with two-radios
- Guided tour of Machu Picchu
- 3-Day / 2-Night stay in a jungle lodge and activities as described in the itinerary. (Please note that activities vary from lodge to lodge and this will depend on availability at time of reservation.)
- Professional bilingual guide for all of the activities
- All meals from Dinner on Day 1 to Breakfast on Day 11
- Entrance fees as required

NOT INCLUDED

- Domestic and International flights and associated taxes
- Gratuities
- Meals not listed
- Additional services such as but not limited to additional tours, meals, alcoholic beverages, laundry and communication