SALKANTAY TREK 3 DAYS

EXPLORE AND LIVE UNFORGETTABLE MOMENTS

DESCRIPTION

Pressed for time? Challenge yourself by completing the Salkantay Trek in just three days! This trek will push you as you hike 48 kilometers through rugged mountain terrain to Machu Picchu in only two days. You will pass along natural bridges, snowcapped mountains, colorful valleys, waterfalls, wildlife, unique plants, and a cloud forest. When you reach Machu Picchu on the third day you will be filled with fulfillment as you relax amongst the ruins and gaze over the dense jungle valleys.

The Salcantay trek to Machupicchu, it is the best alternative hike to the Inca Trail, designed for those who still wish to hike to Machu Picchu. The ecosystem has a wide-range biodiversity. Come and see yourself an outstanding mountain scenery, biodiversity, and an old-living culture off the beaten path.

PERU HIKE
Travel & Expeditions

FULL ITINERARY

SALKANTAY TREK 3 DAYS

Why Take the Salkantay Trek 3 Days?

- ✓ The Salkantay Trek is listed as one of the 25 best treks in the world by National Geographic Adventure Travel Magazine.
- ✓ The Salkantay Trek is definitely one of the very best trekking adventures that you will find in Peru and in the continent of South America.
- ✓ After the Inca Trail, the Salkantay Trek is the 2nd most popular trek to Machu Picchu (and a lot less crowded).
- ✓ Hiking alongside the magnificent Apu Salkantay and arriving at the ruins of the majestic Machu Picchu is one of the best experiences known to mankind.
- ✓ Trekkers can see natural bridges, snowcapped mountains, colorful valleys, waterfalls, wildlife, unique plants, and cloud forest.
- ✓ Camping with less people allows you to control your own trip and have the best views of these incredible mountains!

Cusco, Salkantay pass To Chaullay

Your adventure begins bright and early at 2:30 a.m. We'll pick you up from your accommodation in Cusco for a scenic three-and-a-half-hour drive through Anta, Mollepata, and Challacancha. Along the way, you'll take in breathtaking views of rolling hills, deep valleys, and abundant wildlife. As we approach Soraypampa (3,900 m / 12,795 ft), the starting point of your trek, the majestic snow-capped peaks of Salkantay and Humantay—sacred Apus, or mountain spirits, in Andean culture—will come into view.

At Soraypampa, you'll enjoy a hearty breakfast and meet the trekking team, who will prepare the equipment and organize the mules. From here, the adventure intensifies as you tackle the most challenging section of the trek: the ascent to the Salkantay Pass (4,630 m / 15,190 ft). This steep 7 km (4.35 miles) climb takes about four hours and includes the famous "Path of the 7 Snakes," named for its serpentine curves. Reaching the summit is a triumph, rewarded by panoramic views of the Salkantay Glacier (6,271 m / 20,574 ft) and neighboring peaks, including Humantay, Tucarhuay, and Pumasillo.

After conquering the pass, you'll begin a 7 km (4.35 miles) descent to Wayracmachay, where our chefs will serve a delicious, well-earned lunch. Along the way, take a moment at a scenic viewpoint to admire the stunning valley below.

Once you've recharged, the journey continues into the lush upper Amazon rainforest. This stretch of the trek spans 9.5 km (5.9 miles) over approximately three and a half hours. As you descend, you'll notice a dramatic environmental transformation—from the crisp, rocky Andes to the warm, humid jungle. Along the trail, you'll encounter vibrant hills, exotic wildlife, and unique native plants that bring the scenery to life.

As the afternoon fades, you'll arrive at our exclusive Mountain House campsite in Chaullay (2,950 m / 9,978 ft). After a satisfying dinner, you can unwind and listen to the soothing sounds of nature. Let the tranquil jungle ambiance lull you into a restful sleep, preparing you for the next day's adventures.

WALKING DISTANCE
22 km / 13.67 mi

MEALS
Breakfast, lunch, dinner

ACCOMMODATION
Camping Domes

PERU HIKE
Travel & Expeditions

Chaullay To Agucas Calientes

Today, you can enjoy a more relaxed start to the day, as we'll leave just after 6:00 a.m. In the morning, we'll embark on a scenic hike through the lush Santa Teresa Valley, making our way to the quaint village of La Playa over the course of five hours. The trail winds along the valley floor, crossing to the other side of the mountains, and offers an ever-changing landscape of natural beauty. Along the way, we'll pass cascading waterfalls, listen to the melodies of tropical birds, and walk among fruit trees, vibrant orchids, and plantations of coffee, bananas, and avocados. Be sure to savor the opportunity to taste the sweet and refreshing granadilla—a true treat of the region.

Upon reaching La Playa, we'll enjoy a final energizing lunch with our trekking team before attending a fascinating coffee demonstration. You'll learn about the intricate process of cultivating and preparing coffee and its vital role in sustaining local families. After some time to relax, our transport will take us to the Hidroelectrica train station, marking the next stage of our journey.

From Hidroelectrica, we'll hike along the railroad tracks that trace the Urubamba River to Aguas Calientes. This leisurely route, rich with tropical flora and fauna, offers glimpses of avocados, bananas, and coffee plants, as well as an array of colorful bird species. Keep your eyes peeled for Peru's national bird, the cock of the rock—it's a sight you won't want to miss! Adding to the magic, this is the very trail that American explorer Hiram Bingham followed when he 'rediscovered' Machu Picchu after it was lost for centuries. If you're feeling tired, you can opt to take a train for this portion of the journey (additional cost applies).

After approximately three hours of hiking, we'll arrive in Aguas Calientes. Here, you'll check into your hotel, where you can relax in your private room equipped with a hot shower, WiFi, and luggage storage. You'll also enjoy a delicious breakfast in the morning before visiting Machu Picchu. Take some time this afternoon to unwind or explore the charming town, known for its peaceful, car-free streets and vibrant atmosphere.

At 7:00 p.m., we'll meet for a delightful dinner at a local restaurant, during which your guide will provide a detailed briefing on the plan for tomorrow. Be sure to get an early night's rest, as you'll rise before dawn to experience the awe-inspiring Inca citadel of Machu Picchu.

WALKING DISTANCE
27 km / 16.77 mi

MEALS
Breakfast, lunch, dinner

ACCOMMODATION
Hotel

PERU HIKE
Travel & Expeditions

Machu Picchu and return to Cusco

Today we arrive at the long-awaited finale of our trek, one of the New 7 Wonders of the World and a UNESCO World Heritage Site – Machu Picchu! We will wake up early after a refreshing night at our hostel to beat the crowds to the top of Machu Picchu and enjoy its serenity in the soft morning light. The Machu Picchu entrance check point is open from 06:00 AM until 17:00 PM. We will hike up to Machupicchu (a bus ride is optional for $12.00) and enter the hidden Royal Citadel of the Incas. Here we will have a 2-hour guided tour through this incredible ancient city to visit temples, terraces, palaces, priest's houses, the sundial, the industrial sector, and the farming fields. Be amazed at the engineering ingenuity of the Incas which was so far ahead of their time and still partially a mystery today! Without having modern tools or even steel and iron to work with, the people who built this city were genius in organizing this community in a sustainable and beautiful way on the side of a mountain, even bringing water in canals through its streets for the people to use.

When a Peruvian guide showed this site to Hiram Bingham, it was almost unrecognizable, covered in thick vegetation and in a state of disrepair. It has since been cleaned and restored and is now protected and treasured by the world at large!After this tour, you are free to climb up to Huayna Picchu or Machu Picchu Mountain (Be sure to book in advance to get tickets for these!).

Each mountain takes approximately 3 hours to hike up and down. Another lower-impact option for which you do not need an extra ticket is to trek to the Sun Gate, the main entrance from the Inca Trail (this takes about 2 or 2.5 hours round-trip). Another option is walking to see the Incan Bridge. You will be able to stay and enjoy this magical city for more than 7 hours before hiking back down to Aguas Calientes for the train ride between 01:37 PM and 06:20 PM (subject to availability) to Ollantaytambo. A private bus will pick up our group and drop you off at your hotel in Cusco at about 20:00 hrs. Rest your feet and your body now, but we can assure you your heart will still be soaring for weeks and years to come!

MEALS
Breakfast

TOUR IN MACHU PICCHU
2-3 hours exploring

RETURN
Train To Cusco

PERU HIKE
Travel & Expeditions

PERU HIKE
Travel & Expeditions

INCLUSIONS

INCLUDED / NOT INCLUDED

At Peru Hike company, we specify the included and non-included services under all the tour ineraries listed on our website. We take care of all the logiscs, but please pay aenon to the details to avoid missing anything. Some items may be different for specific programs, so please read carefully before booking with us.

WHAT IS INCLUDED?

High Quality Service & Safety

- ✓ Pre-departure briefing
- ✓ Experienced Guide speaks English and Spanish
- ✓ A professional cook only for our group
- ✓ Medical Kit – First Aid Kit
- ✓ Private Camping Equipment
- ✓ One duffle bag per person
- ✓ Customer Service 24/7
- ✓ Extra oxygen

Permits & Entrance Tickets

- ✓ Entrance ticket to machupicchu Archaeological Site.

Transportation

- ✓ Horses, and muleteers horses carry your 8-kg / 16-pound personal items.
- ✓ Day 1: Private transportation from Cusco at the start of the trek.
- ✓ Day 2:, your duffle bag will be transported by car and train.
- ✓ Day 3: Train Ticket from Aguas Calientes to Ollantaytambo
- ✓ Day 3: Private transport from Ollantaytambo train station to your hotel in Cusco.

Meals

- ✓ Meals: 3 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, and 2 Dinners
- ✓ Meals: vegetarian and vegan
- ✓ Water to drink on the trail every day
- ✓ Wake up tea
- ✓ Tea Time or Happy Hour
- ✓ Snacks on the trail daily
- ✓ Products for hygiene

Accommodation

- ✓ Personal Accommodation in Private Campsites
- ✓ Hotel in Aguas Calientes

WHICH IS NOT INCLUDED?

What Is Not Included?

- Travel Insurance
- Tips for our staff
- Additional costs or delays out of control of the management
- Sleeping bag rent it with us for $10.
- trekking stick rent it with us for $10.
- entrance ticket to Salkantay (S/20).

PERU HIKE
Travel & Expeditions

BEFORE YOU GO

Is it for me?

We want to make your trip to Peru as memorable and as carefree as possible. In this secon, you'll find the answers to all the quesons you have about traveling with Peru Hike Company in one place. Please read the following informaon carefully – it will help you with any quesons about our services.

How many days do I need to acclimate in Cusco before the Trek?

It’s very important to be well acclimated to the altude before exerng yourself on a trek. We recommend that you arrive in Cusco at least 2 or 3 days before the trek starts to help you adjust and avoid possible problems with altude sickness while on the trek. You might have already been in another area of Peru at a high altude before arriving in Cusco. In that case, we sll recommend you have a whole day in Cusco to rest, recover from your travel, and enjoy the sights and sounds of Cusco before deparng for the trek. Here some suggesons for acvies to do in the Cusco vicinity before starng your adventure trek:

City Tour and **Sacred Valley**

City Tour

Sacred Valley

Briefing or Informave Meeng

All informaon meengs and briefings are held in our main office in Cusco (or your hotel) at 6:00 pm, one night before the tour begins. These meengs last approximately 30 to 45 minutes. If you’re unable to aend, you must coordinate another me by email, by phone or at the Peru Hike Company office.

Trek Balance Payment (in Cusco)

The trek has to be paid for in full at most 6.30 pm one day before your departure (generally aer the briefing). It would be much appreciated if you pay the trek balance in cash US dollars or local currency at our office in Cusco.

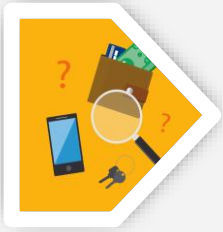
You can withdraw some money from several ATMs along Avenida Sol (either in US dollars or local Peruvian Soles). You can pay by credit card or PAYPAL online, but you will have to pay an charge, charged by VISA and PAYPAL. We do not accept bank checks or payment of the balance by traveler’s checks.

Group tours

Group tours are made up of different types of people, then physical condions and ages can vary. By agreeing to be part of a group tour, you also accept that some people may be faster or slower than you. Therefore, each person can go at their own pace on the route. It may be the case that a group wishes to modify the tour; however, the guide will be the one who decides, aer consulng with all the parcipants, if such modificaons are possible.

Strikes and demonstraons

Strikes and demonstraons are usually common in Peru, and this may interrupt some of our tours. Roads can be blocked, and train tracks can be taken over. However, we will try to keep your trip as originally planned, even if it means leaving the night before the scheduled date. Under these circumstances, tours may also be canceled. In case of changes or cancellaons, everything will be coordinated with you by our operaons department. Your safety is our highest priority, and our decisions will be made to protect it.

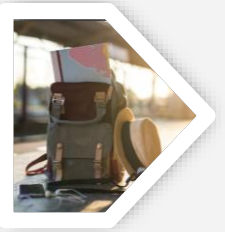


Lost Objects

Please pay aenon to where you leave your things and remember to take everything once you leave our transport, tents, or restaurants. You're the only one responsible for your objects during the tour

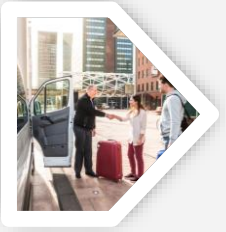
Duffel Bag or Canvas Case

You'll receive a canvas case or duffel bag during your briefing. Our horses will carry them, and the horsemen will hand them to you when you get to each camp. They measure 60 x 24 x 22 cm (23.6 x 9.45 x 8.66 in). A maximum of 6 kg / 13 lb is allowed for each duffel bag, including the weight of your sleeping bag, sleeping mat, clothes, and other personal items.



Can I store my luggage at your office?

Of course! During the trip, your main luggage can be stored at our office (you can organize it with us on the briefing day or by email) or at your hotel, both free of charge. Any equipment that you won't need on the trek can be stored safely in your hotel. Nearly every hotel will provide this service. Don't leave items of value with your bags; put them in the hotel safe and obtain an itemized receipt (in the unlikely case of the, many insurance companies require that you have a copy of the receipt itemizing everything). It's best to put items such as credit cards inside a sealed, signed envelope for extra peace of mind.



Pick up of guests

Peru Hike Companycan pick you up from your hotel, as long as it's in the Historical Center of Cusco. Your guide will coordinate the pickup me in the briefing session, but please keep in mind that the me may vary between 30 and 45 minutes due to traffic. Cusco is an old city, meaning it has many narrow cobbled streets. Some hotels and Airbnbs may be located on streets without access to cars or on long, steep slopes, making it difficult to transport luggage. We strongly recommend that you book accommodaon with good access.

THANHS!

DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS?

24 HRS. EMERGENCY
CALL: +51 917815987
[Opening hours – 7:30 am to 19:30 pm]

Phone: +51 917815987
Email: info@peruhike.com
web: www.peruhike.com

Location:
Cusco, Peru Click here