THE SALKANTAY TREK TO MACHU PICCHU

a unique inca trail experience
Experience The Salkantay Trek to Machu Picchu in style.

This 7-day lodge to lodge trekking experience will take you on a historic section of Inca trail through 15 different eco-systems, while you traverse a mountain pass over 15,000 feet, explore villages where locals still maintain age-old traditions and re-discover the mystical beauty of Machu Picchu, the crown jewel of the Inca Empire. Each day’s trek ends with a hot shower in a cozy lodge, complemented by a massage or a dip in an outdoor jacuzzi, followed by a gourmet meal with select wines and all provided with highly personalized service by local staff.

The Salkantay experience goes beyond deluxe lodges and a great trek. It is a unique opportunity to experience ancient history in the Land of the Incas, as well as the most interesting and exotic variety of flora and fauna, all in the company of new friends and like-minded souls.
# The Salkantay Trek to Machu Picchu

7 day experience

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The Salkantay Trek to Machu Picchu

Legend

Route
Hike
Llactapata Inka Trail
Train

MAP / ROUTE

ITINERARY
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
After an early breakfast, your Mountain Lodges of Peru tour guide and driver will pick you up at your hotel in Cusco. The first stop will be a visit to the Quillarumiyoc archaeological site. Next, you will stop in the mountain village of Mollepata. There you will visit El Pedregal, a beautiful farmhouse where you can learn about local agriculture and livestock.
ON THE WAY TO SORAYPAMPA

Then, the transfer will take you through a winding mountain road to a site called Challacancha. Here you will begin your hike to Soraypampa along a picturesque path called the “Camino Real” (Royal Path), which is also a good opportunity to acclimate to the higher altitude. As you round the final turn of the Camino Real, the Salkantay Lodge will come into view.
Cusco

ON THE WAY TO SORAYPAMPA

Hike

Challacancha - Soraypampa

- Approximately 3 hours (including box lunch en route)
- Easy to Moderate

Optional

Guests who do not wish to trek may be transported to the lodge by vehicle.

Overnight

Salkantay Lodge at 3,869 m. - 12,690 ft.
Soraypampa

HIKE TO LAKE HUMANTAY

Day two presents another opportunity to gauge your altitude-acclimatization with a half-day hike to Lake Humantay. After breakfast, you begin an ascent up the slopes that border the plateau behind the Salkantay Lodge. An hour and a half later, you will be stunned to see the turquoise water of the lake.
Here you will have a chance to relax, enjoy a snack, meditate in the tranquility of this magical spot and be part of a traditional offering to “Pachamama” (Mother Earth). After your descent back to the lodge, the staff will be waiting with a hot lunch. The second half of your day is spent at leisure. You may opt to soak in our outdoor jacuzzi, indulge in a relaxing massage or even take a long nap.
Soraypampa

HIKE TO LAKE HUMANTAY

HIKE

Hike to Lake Humantay
Soraypampa

Salkantay Lodge - Lake Humantay – Salkantay Lodge

Approximately 4 hours (in total)

Easy to Moderate

OVERNIGHT

Salkantay Lodge at 3,869 m. - 12,690 ft.

Note: While the morning hike to Lake Humantay is optional, we strongly recommend your participation in preparation for the strenuous hike on day three.
EXPLORE.  
dream.  
DISCOVER.
CROSSING THE SALKANTAY PASS

After an early start, you hike up the Rio Blanco valley, circling Humantay Peak. As you gradually make your way up these mountain trails, you will encounter expansive plateaus dotted with boulders of varying sizes, the remnants of a valley that was once bisected by a fast-flowing river. The final and most challenging part of your ascent is conquering the mountain switchbacks that take you to the Salkantay Pass, the highest point on the trek (4,636 m/15,213 ft).
CROSSING THE SALKANTAY PASS

What follows is a dramatic descent through fields of giant boulders, often shrouded in fog. After a very welcome hot picnic lunch, you will continue down through bucolic rolling hills and marsh-like plateaus as you take your final steps to the Wayra Lodge at Wayraccmachay.
CROSSING THE SALKANTAY PASS

DAY 03

at a glance

Soraypampa

Salkantay pass at 15,213'.

Landscapes at dusk

THE SALKANTAY TREK TO MACHU PICCHU

ACTIVITY MENU

HIKE

Morning to noon

Soraypampa - Wayracmachay

Approximately 7 hours

Challenging

OVERNIGHT

Salkantay Mountain pass at 4,640 m. - 15,213 ft.

Wayra Lodge (3,906 m. - 12,812 ft.)
DESCENDING INTO THE CLOUD FOREST

After a leisurely breakfast at the Wayra Lodge, you continue the descent along the banks of the Salkantay River through increasingly verdant scenery. Today you will see more of the local people as the trail takes you past their simple homes and makeshift fences.
At lunch time you will arrive at Colpa Lodge, located on a high promontory at the confluence of three rivers. You are greeted by the staff with a Pachamanca lunch, a traditional Peruvian meal cooked in the earth by hot stones that create a natural underground oven. After lunch, spend the afternoon lounging in the sun or relaxing in the outdoor jacuzzi while you take in the panoramic views of the lush green mountains that surround you.
**ACTIVITY MENU**

**HIKE**

Wayraccmachay-Collpapampa

- Approximately 4 hours
- Easy to moderate.

**OPTIONAL ACTIVITY**

Afternoon bike from Manchayhuaycco to Collpapampa. You will descend through a beautiful valley in which you will admire the diverse cloud forest vegetation through the slopes of the valley. Duration: 3hrs approximately / Level: Easy. This activity has an additional cost. Overnight: Colpa Lodge at 2,870 m. - 9,414 ft.

**OVERNIGHT**

Colpa Lodge (2,870 m. - 9,414 ft.)
The world reveals itself to those who travel on foot.
FOLLOWING THE SANTA TERESA RIVER VALLEY

Today you will hike in the Santa Teresa River valley where you will hop over small streams fed by waterfalls descending from the glaciers and cross through fruit orchards. After breaking for a hot picnic lunch by the river, you will walk for one hour before we meet an MLP vehicle for a short drive to the beginning of the “Llactapata Inca Trail” that leads us to Lucma Lodge.
Collpapampa

FOLLOWING THE SANTA TERESA RIVER VALLEY

On the way you will visit an organic coffee plantation, one of many in that area that produces some of the best organic coffee in the world. In Lucmabamba, the hot air and increased humidity signal that you are even closer to the edge of the Amazon Jungle.
**Day 01**

**Day 02**

**Day 03**

**Day 04**

**Day 05**

**Day 06**

**Day 07**

**7 Day Experience**

**Activity Menu**

**Hike**

*Collpapampa-Lucmabamba*

- Hike: Collpapampa-Lucmabamba
  - Duration: 6 hours (including lunch)
  - Difficulty: Moderate to challenging

**Optional**

*Zip Line in Santa Teresa:*
This is a full day activity which replaces the trek. Operated by Cola de Mono. It has an additional cost.

*Biking:*

- **Option a)** Yanama pass – Hornopampa – Lluskamayo: Duration: 5 hrs. approximately. Level: Easy to moderate. It has an additional cost.
- **Option b)** Descent from Hornopampa to Lluskamayo: Duration: 3.5 hrs. approximately. Level: Easy. It has an additional cost.

**Overnight**

Overnight: Lucma Lodge (2,135 m. - 7,003 ft.)
EXPLORING LLACTAPATA PASS

During a 2-3 hour climb up a path mostly comprised of original Inca steps, you will get a sense of what hiking through the rainforest would be like. Your first milestone today will be the top of the peak, the last one before you reach the Aobamaba River valley that connects you to Machu Picchu. When you arrive at the ruins of Llactapata at the Llactapata Pass (2,736 m/8,974 ft), you will be delighted to see a southeast view of the “back” of the Machu Picchu ruins.
Enjoy your lunch a bit farther down the trail in a meadow with panoramic views. The final descent takes you through lush bamboo forests, until you end the day’s hike at the Hidroelectrica train station. A one-hour scenic train ride delivers you to your final stop, the town of Aguas Calientes at the base of Machu Picchu.
Lucmabamba

**EXPLORING LLACTAPATA PASS**

at a glance

- Hiking from Lucmabamba to Santa Teresa
  - Approximately 5 hours
  - Moderate to challenging

**OVERNIGHT**

- Aguas Calientes Lodge (1,900 m. - 6,332 ft.)

**ITINERARY**

- **DAY 01**: DAY 02: DAY 03: DAY 04: DAY 05: DAY 06: DAY 07

**THE SALKANTAY TREK TO MACHU PICCHU**
At dawn, you begin your journey to Machu Picchu with a short and rollicking uphill bus ride. Prepare to be awed by the imposing and skillful architecture of the Watchtower, the Temple of the Sun, and the royal Inca residences, among many others. Your imagination will soar as you contemplate the history of Machu Picchu and its mysterious origins.
Some may even choose a hike to Huayna Picchu, the iconic towering mountain often seen in photographs. After the visit you will have lunch in Aguas Calientes before your train/transfer back to Cusco. As night falls and you arrive at your hotel amidst and hustle and bustle of Cusco, you will be touched by a feeling of peace and rejuvenation which will linger even as you journey back home.
Machu Picchu
THE SANCTUARY
at a glance

OPTIONAL HIKE

Huayna Picchu Mountain

Approximately 4 hrs.

Challenging

Note: Huayna Picchu Mountain tickets are subject to availability.
The lodge-to-lodge equestrian adventure is a five-day ride amidst snowcapped Andean peaks, through verdant cloud forests and along pristine creeks, all the while enjoying our mountain luxury lodges and friendly staff. Day six is a hiking day, as horses cannot travel over the newly restored Llactapacta Trail. The trips are led by expert riding guides and the horses provided are American quarter horses raised in Uruguay.

All saddles, tack and riding helmets are imported from the U.S. We generally recommend this adventure for intermediate and experienced riders, but beginners with some experience are also welcome. Equestrian-only departures are available throughout the year from March to December. Other available dates are mixed-group departures that are shared by trekkers and riders, each group having separate trip leaders. Please check our website for additional information.
THE LODGES

Our mountain lodges have brought together traditional Inca building techniques and sensitivity to the surrounding environment with all the comforts of home. At the end of each day, you will enjoy hot showers, fine gourmet meals, select wines, goose-down bedding, massages, outdoor jacuzzis and highly personalized service from our local staff.
**ADDITIONAL SERVICES**

**Spend an Extra Day in Machu Picchu**

Even though you have enough time to see the core of Machu Picchu Sanctuary during the regular guided tour, most of our guests realize that they would have liked to stay a little longer since there is so much to explore! Let us know at time of reservation if you would like to add this optional day.

**By spending an extra day at Machu Picchu, you will be able to:**

- Make the best of your time visiting a World Heritage Site situated on a spectacular mountain ridge.
- Explore areas of the site that are less visited by most travelers, such as climbing Machu Picchu Mountain (special permit to be purchased in advance) or hiking to the Inca Bridge or the Sun Gate.
- Visit the town of Aguas Calientes and shop the local craft markets.
- Treat yourself to a relaxing end to your vacation and fuland hospitality of the unique Inkaterra Pueblo Hotel.

**Prices:**

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cost of the one-day extension at Machu Picchu</td>
<td>US$ 410 per person based on shared accommodation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single room rate</td>
<td>US$ 555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extra bed</td>
<td>US$ 315</td>
</tr>
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*Note: Prices subject to change.*

**Includes:**

One additional night at the Inkaterra Pueblo Hotel with dinner on day 7, breakfast and lunch on day 8, bus tickets to/from the site, entrance tickets to the Sanctuary, and transfer back to Cusco from Ollantaytambo (train ticket is included in your program cost). This extension cost does not include a guided visit of the Sanctuary or a climbing permit for Machu Picchu mountain. Both can be provided at additional cost. Please inquire with your Travel Specialist for additional information.
We are happy to take care of your hotel reservations, transfers and can set up personalized tours during your stay in Peru. Our team is highly focused on customer service and attention to detail. Our goal is to design superb travel experiences and create wonderful memories for our guests.

Cusco
Enjoy exploring the vibrant city of Cusco and its surroundings, which offer many great cultural and historical attractions, along with a variety of fine dining, traditional shows, and bargain shopping. Spending time in Cusco is the perfect starting point to acclimatize and gain initial perspective on local history and culture.

Where to stay in Cusco
Mountain Lodges of Peru welcomes you to El Mercado and El Retablo, two boutique hotels in the city of Cusco.

El Mercado
An elegant and intimate property located a stone’s throw from the Plaza de Armas, the main square of Cusco. Formerly part of the old farmers’ market, El Mercado has been designed to incorporate some of the elements of the market, both in its original decor, relaxed atmosphere and innovative cuisine. With only 32 rooms, provides the best of colonial and contemporary architecture, all the latest comforts and truly exceptional service. For more information visit: www.elmercadocusco.com

El Retablo
A two story 17 room art boutique B&B that celebrates vibrant Peruvian traditions and rich cultural heritage of Cusco. Mountain Lodges of Peru resurrected and converted the historic building into a stylish destination three blocks from Plaza de Armas. The innovative yet intimate El Retablo blends contemporary comfort with customs of Peruvian artisans, taking inspiration from retablos, which are a sophisticated form of Andean folk art with three-dimensional figurines in vibrantly colored portable boxes. For more information visit: www.elretablo.com

Lima
Historically referred to as the “City of Kings”, Lima still holds its essence as a historic and bustling capital one needs to visit. Spend some time at the Plaza Mayor, and experience the change of guard at the Presidential Palace, or maybe the tour of the catacombs of San Francisco Convent. Take in the sunset while you stroll on the boardwalk in the Miraflores district, heading towards the historical Barranco district, filled with artisan boutiques and local flavor. If you were wondering about what and where to eat, Lima is now considered the gastronomical capital of South America, so great cuisine, from street vendors to fine dining, can be found in every corner.

Extension Packages
Do you feel like exploring more of Peru? Maybe explore the colorful island communities of Lake Titicaca (the highest navigable lake in the world), or adventure into the rich wilderness of the Peruvian Amazon jungle, or visit Colca Canyon, with its incredible depths, Inca terraces, and soaring condors. There is plenty to do so please let us know if you would be interested in receiving any suggestions.
Our guides are among the best in Peru (some even having won international awards) and have on average at least 15 years of experience guiding in the mountains, not only in Peru, but around the world. Many of them are considered pioneers in this area, having scouted many of the current routes in the country. All Mountain Lodges of Peru guides have excellent language skills, and are highly trained in managing group dynamics. All guides undergo continuous medical and rescue training, with a certification in “Wilderness First Aid.” You will appreciate their knowledge of history and cultural traditions, as well as their interpretation of local flora and fauna, and their great insights (and stories!) that go far beyond any guide or history book.
In 2006 Mountain Lodges of Peru sponsored the creation of Yanapana Peru, a not-for-profit Civil Association dedicated to social and environmental responsibility. Yanapana is committed to improving the quality of life through sustainable community development, in an effort to reduce extreme poverty in the Andean highlands.

Main activities of the association include donations for the enhancement of nutrition and infrastructure at a local public school, funding and training for local entrepreneurs, which include jam and honey, handmade textiles and organic coffee production. Other supportive efforts are directed towards child sponsorship programs, as well as medical prevention, detection and treatment programs.

In our own journey through sustainability, we realized that it was necessary to take steps beyond what was traditionally being done in social inclusion, which is why in 2012, a joint-venture was born between the community of Huacahuasi and Mountain Lodges of Peru, naming it Kuska Purispa: Walking Together.

We are convinced that sustainable tourism in the region should be built around a model that empowers local communities, making them active investors in local development projects for the long-term benefit of all. We are committed to work under this innovative business model and keep empowering and generating added value to local communities in Peru.
2018 RATES & INCLUSIONS

Included

- Accommodations.
- All meals (except breakfast on the first day and dinner on the last day).
- Transfer services.
- Guided tours during the whole trip.
- Entrance fees and permits to touristic and archeological sites.
- Tips for staff at the Lodges and staff in the field are included (except Guide tips, it is suggested US$ 5 - 10 per day).

Notes

- Rates per person, based on shared accommodations in a twin, double or triple room.
- 50% supplement for requested single room and 25% for single willing to share.
- Private services, additional services and specialty guides are available upon request at an additional cost.
- Standard languages are Spanish and English. For other languages please contact your Travel Specialist.
- Daily activities will be subject to factors such as weather and other events beyond our control.
- For season rates other than 2018, please inquire with your Travel Specialist.
- We kindly request that every guest presents valid proof of insurance coverage as a minimum for Medical Emergency Treatment and Evacuation. Make sure that the insurance policy includes Adventure Travel Activities or similar coverage.

“EXPORT SERVICES (DL NO. 919) Regarding the General Tax Sales (IGV). Peruvian Law considers accommodation to non-resident guests as an export service. In order to be exempted and as a requirement, all non-resident guests must show upon check in their original passport and Andean Immigration card, provided at your arrival to the country and with no more than 60 days after your arrival date indicated at the immigration card.”