



THE LIVING ANDES

6 DAYS / 5 NIGHTS

Cusco – Sacred Valley – Machu Picchu – Rainbow Mountain

We invite you to embark on a journey through the heart of the ancient Inca Empire. This 6-day, 5-night itinerary has been thoughtfully crafted to immerse you in the essence of the Andean world - its history, vibrant living culture, breathtaking landscapes, and culinary richness. From the highland capital of Cusco and the Sacred Valley to the awe-inspiring citadel of Machu Picchu and the surreal colors of Rainbow Mountain, each day delivers unforgettable moments. Professional guides, smooth logistics, and immersive experiences ensure your journey is safe, enriching, and truly memorable.

DAY 1: ARRIVAL IN CUSCO

Upon arrival at Cusco's international airport, our team will warmly welcome you and provide a private transfer to your hotel. We recommend taking the rest of the day to relax and acclimate to the high altitude (3,400 meters / 11,200 feet above sea level). You may rest at the hotel or enjoy a gentle stroll through the nearby historic center.

Tips for acclimatization: Drink coca leaf tea, avoid heavy meals, and take it slow as you adjust to the altitude.

Overnight: Hotel in Cusco

Meals: None

DAY 2: SACRED VALLEY – AGUAS CALIENTES

After breakfast, embark on a full-day excursion to the breathtaking Sacred Valley, a region known for its fertility and spiritual significance in Inca culture. Highlights include:

- **Pisac:** Explore the impressive archaeological complex perched on the hillside, followed by a visit to the vibrant traditional handicraft market.
- **Urubamba:** Enjoy a traditional Andean buffet lunch featuring authentic Andean flavors at a local restaurant.
- **Ollantaytambo:** Discover this remarkable fortress-town, showcasing military and religious architecture from the Inca era.

In the late afternoon, board the train to Aguas Calientes, the gateway to Machu Picchu. Upon arrival, you'll be greeted and transferred to your selected hotel for the night.

Overnight: Hotel in Aguas Calientes

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 3: MACHU PICCHU – CUSCO

Early in the morning, after breakfast, we will take the bus for a 25-minute ride up to the entrance of the majestic Inca citadel of Machu Picchu, one of the Seven Wonders of the Modern World



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and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Accompanied by our expert guide, you will enjoy a 2.5 to 3-hour guided tour of the most important areas of the sanctuary. Learn about its architecture, spiritual significance, and the Inca worldview that shaped this extraordinary sanctuary. During the guided visit, you'll also have time to take photos and simply enjoy the peaceful and mystical atmosphere.

Optional: For more adventurous travelers, there is the option to hike Huayna Picchu or Machu Picchu Mountain (advance booking required). These trails offer spectacular panoramic views of the site and the surrounding valley.

After your visit, take the shuttle bus back to Aguas Calientes and enjoy some free time for lunch. Later, board the train to Ollantaytambo, where your private transfer will be waiting to take you back to Cusco.

Overnight: Hotel in Cusco

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 4: CUSCO CITY TOUR – PERUVIAN COOKING CLASS

After breakfast, we begin a guided city tour of Cusco's most iconic historical landmarks. Once the capital of the Inca Empire, Cusco is a living museum, blending pre-Columbian and colonial heritage. You will visit: Qoricancha, once the most revered temple of the Inca Empire, dedicated to the Sun God Inti. Continue your journey through Inca spirituality and engineering with visits to: Sacsayhuamán, Qenko, Puka Pukara, and Tambomachay.

In the afternoon, participate in a Peruvian cooking class led by a local chef. The experience begins with a guided tour of the iconic San Pedro Market to discover vibrant local ingredients, followed by a hands-on lesson in preparing a traditional four-course meal (vegetarian option available) and crafting a Pisco Sour.

Overnight: Hotel in Cusco

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 5: RAINBOW MOUNTAIN (VINICUNCA)

This day begins early around 4:30 AM with pickup from your hotel for an unforgettable adventure to one of Peru's most spectacular natural wonders: Rainbow Mountain, also known as Vinicunca. On the way, we'll stop at a local community to enjoy a traditional Andean breakfast. We then continue along a scenic route with views of snow-capped peaks, rivers, and remote Quechua villages. The hike lasts approximately 1.5 to 2 hours (one-way) and reaches an altitude of 5,030 meters (16,500 ft). The climb is challenging but deeply rewarding, as the summit reveals a stunning palette of natural colors caused by mineral deposits in the mountain. You'll have time to rest, take photos, and appreciate the beauty of the Andes in all their splendor. After taking in the views, begin your descent and enjoy a hearty lunch at a local restaurant before returning to Cusco in the late afternoon.



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Important: This is a moderate to high-difficulty activity due to the altitude. Good physical condition and acclimatization are highly recommended.

Overnight: Hotel in Cusco

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 6: CUSCO – LIMA

After breakfast, enjoy a free morning to rest, shop, or explore a bit more of Cusco on your own. At the scheduled time, you'll be transferred to the airport to board your flight back to Lima, carrying memories of the Andes that will last a lifetime.

Meals: Breakfast

END OF SERVICES

Thank you for trusting us to guide you through this unforgettable journey into the heart of the Inca Empire.

INCLUDED:

- All private guided tours and personalized experiences
- Professional bilingual guides (English & Spanish)
- Domestic flights (Lima – Cusco – Lima)
- All ground transportation, including private airport transfers
- Hotel accommodations (based on double occupancy)
- Meals as noted in the detailed itinerary
- Vistadome train service to and from Machu Picchu
- Entrance fees to all sites and attractions listed in the itinerary
- Bus and train tickets for all excursions
- Personalized trip coordination and documentation
- 24/7 in-country support

NOT INCLUDED:

- International airfare
- Travel insurance (highly recommended)
- Tips and gratuities
- Meals not specified in the detailed itinerary
- Optional hikes to Huayna Picchu or Machu Picchu Mountain
- Personal expenses

WHAT YOU NEED TO BRING:

- Valid passport (with minimum 6 months before expiration)
- Comfortable walking shoes or hiking boots and trekking clothes
- Warm layers (including gloves, beanie, and scarf) and windproof jacket for high-altitude locations, especially Rainbow Mountain



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Perú Increíble

- Rain jacket or poncho
- Sun protection (hat, sunglasses, sunscreen)
- Reusable water bottle
- Daypack for daily excursions
- Small bills for local markets and tips
- Personal medications
- Travel insurance documents



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