



ANDEAN EXPLORER

7 DAYS / 6 NIGHTS

Cusco – Sacred Valley – Aguas Calientes – Machu Picchu

Embark on a vibrant 7-day journey through the cultural, historical, and natural heart of Peru. Beginning in Cusco, the former capital of the Inca Empire, this itinerary offers authentic experiences including visits to world-renowned archaeological sites, traditional Andean communities, stunning landscapes in the Sacred Valley, and a hands-on culinary workshop that will leave you with the flavors of Peru etched in memory. Every detail is curated for comfort, immersion, and connection.

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: CUSCO CITY TOUR

After breakfast, enjoy a half-day guided tour of Cusco's most important historical sites:

- **Qoricancha (Temple of the Sun):** The ancient Inca ceremonial center dedicated to Inti, the Sun God.
- **Sacsayhuamán:** An impressive ceremonial fortress built with massive stone blocks expertly fitted together.
- **Qenqo, Puka Pukara, and Tambomachay:** Explore these archaeological sites known for their ritualistic, administrative, and water-related significance.

In the afternoon, enjoy free time to explore Cusco's lively historic center, visit museums, or relax at a local café.

Overnight: Hotel in Cusco

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 3: MARAS & MORAY ATV ADVENTURE

Fuel up with breakfast before setting out on an exhilarating ATV (quad bike) adventure through the breathtaking highlands of the Sacred Valley. Ride along scenic off-road trails to reach the impressive circular agricultural terraces of Moray, an ancient Inca site believed to have been used for agricultural experimentation. Continue your journey to the salt mines of Maras, where thousands of salt pools cascade down the mountainside - still harvested by local families using



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traditional techniques. Along the way, enjoy panoramic views, cultural insights, and plenty of photo opportunities before returning to your hotel.

Overnight: Hotel in Cusco

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 4: 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.

Later, board the scenic Vistadome train to Aguas Calientes, the gateway to Machu Picchu. Upon arrival, you'll be welcomed and escorted to your selected hotel for the evening.

Overnight: Hotel in Aguas Calientes

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 5: MACHU PICCHU – AGUAS CALIENTES

After an early breakfast, board the shuttle bus up to Machu Picchu, the awe-inspiring "Lost City of the Incas." Perched high in the Andes and shrouded in mist, this sacred citadel reveals its magic as the morning sun illuminates its stone temples and agricultural terraces.

Accompanied by your expert guide, explore the site's most iconic sectors - including the Temple of the Sun, the Sacred Plaza, and the ceremonial quarters - while learning about the spiritual and astronomical significance of this remarkable place. You'll have time to take in the views, reflect in silence, and capture breathtaking photos.

Optional: For those seeking an extra challenge, take an unforgettable hike up Huayna Picchu or Machu Picchu Mountain (advance reservations required). These trails reward you with panoramic views that few travelers ever get to see.

In the afternoon, return by shuttle bus to Aguas Calientes, where you'll have free time to relax, enjoy lunch, or visit the soothing local hot springs.

Overnight: Hotel in Aguas Calientes

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 6: MACHU PICCHU REVISIT – CUSCO

After breakfast, return to Machu Picchu for a second entry, this time without a guide, allowing you to explore the sanctuary at your own pace. Revisit your favorite spots, take photos in the



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morning light, or simply sit and soak in the energy of this sacred wonder. This unguided experience offers a more personal connection to the site and a chance to notice details you may have missed the first time.

Afterward, head back to Aguas Calientes to enjoy lunch and gather your belongings. In the early afternoon, board the scenic Vistadome train to Ollantaytambo, where your private driver will be waiting to transfer you back to Cusco for your final evening in the Andes.

Overnight: Hotel in Cusco

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 7: PERUVIAN COOKING CLASS – LIMA

This morning, you'll participate in a Peruvian cooking class for lunch from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. 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 (non-alcoholic version available also). In the afternoon, enjoy a private transfer to the Cusco airport for your flight back to Lima and onward international connection.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

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
- All entrance fees to archaeological sites and attractions listed in the itinerary
- All bus tickets, train tickets, and logistical support for excursions
- Personalized trip coordination and travel documentation
- 24/7 in-country support and emergency assistance

NOT INCLUDED:

- International airfare
- Travel insurance (highly recommended)
- Tips and gratuities
- Meals not specified in the detailed itinerary



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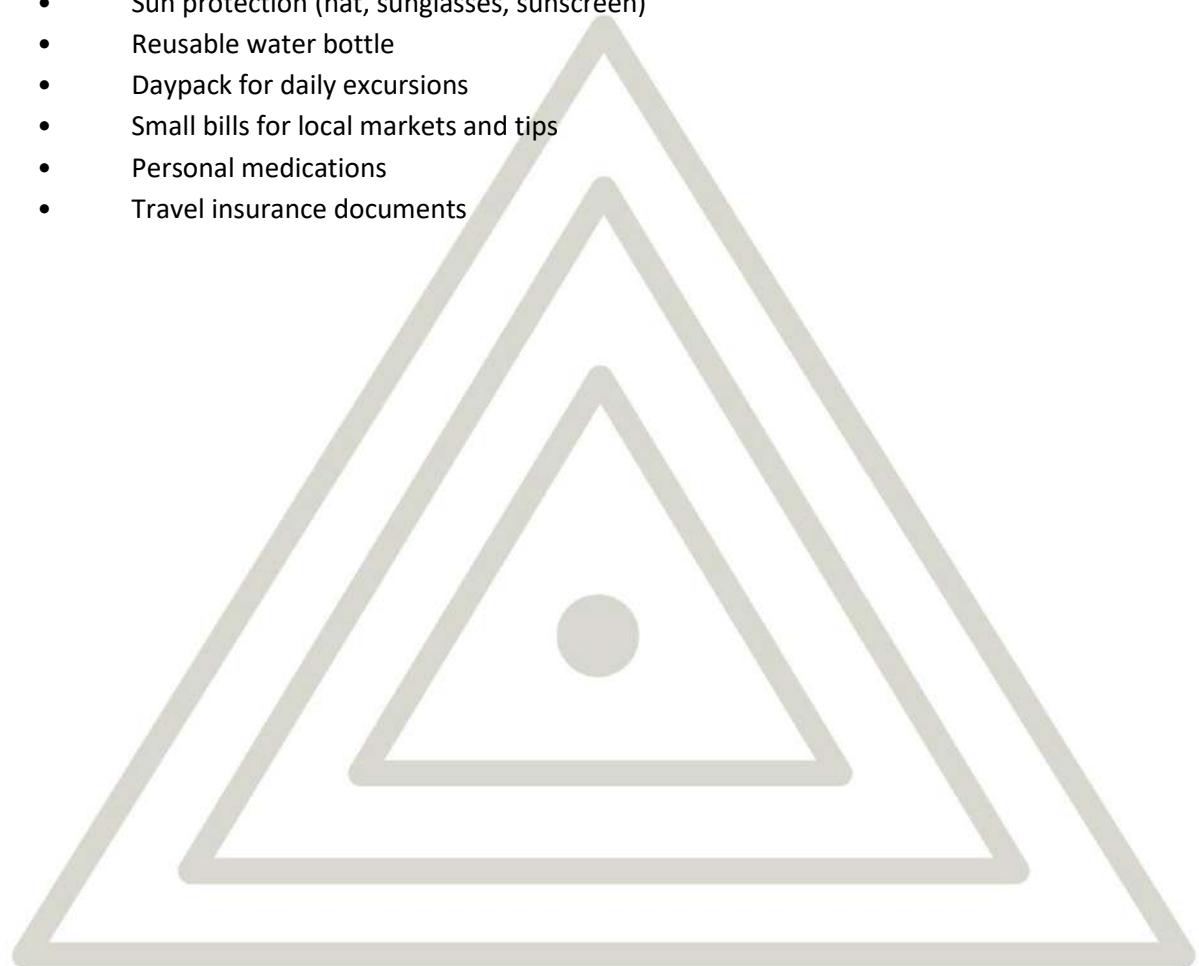
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- Optional hikes to Huayna Picchu or Machu Picchu Mountain
- Personal expenses

WHAT YOU NEED TO BRING:

- Valid passport (with minimum 6 months before expiration)
- Comfortable walking shoes or hiking boots and trekking clothes
- Warm layers for cool Andean nights
- 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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