

BLACK DIAMOND TREK TO MACHU PICCHU

Seeking off-the-beaten path trails and the ultimate hiking challenge? Join us on this unique 10-day, 75-mile trek that takes you from the heart of Cusco to Machu Picchu along less-traveled mountain paths, and through traditional villages and remote archaeological sites. Along the way we mix luxury camping & mountain lodges, with the support of experienced guides and staff. Don't miss the trek of a lifetime!

ITINERARY

DAY 0 EVENING BRIEFING IN CUSCO

Meet your MLP guide and fellow travelers for a general trip briefing and Q&A.

Time: 7 p.m.

Location: Cusco

Duration: Approximately 45 minutes

Please note: We recommend that you arrive in Cusco at least 1 - 2 days prior to the departure date for altitude acclimatization and to participate in the pre-trip briefing.

DAY 1 PIURAY

Hike from the Plaza de Armas in Cusco to Piuray Lake. Explore the Sacsayhuaman archaeological site and enjoy a picnic lunch at Senqa Mountain en route to the Piuray campsite.

📏 8 miles / 13 km

🕒 Approximately 8 hours

🚶 Moderate to challenging

Meals: L, D

Overnight: Premium camping at Lake Piuray.

DAY 2 HUCHUYQOSQO

Early-morning kayak excursion across Piuray Lake* to begin the hike to Huchuyqosqo. After a picnic lunch and exploration of the Huchuyqosqo archaeological site, end the day with a downhill hike to Lamay Lodge in the Sacred Valley.

***Optional:** Morning bike ride to Huchuyqosqo instead of the kayak excursion.

📏 9 miles / 14,5 km

🕒 Approximately 8 hours

🚶 Challenging

Meals: B, L, D

Overnight: Lamay Lodge

DAY 3**PISAQ**

Start your day with an invigorating hike from the village of Amaru to the community of Viacha, followed by a visit to the PISAQ archaeological site. After a guided exploration of the site, continue hiking to the PISAQ town center to meet your MLP vehicle for the drive back to Lamay Lodge. Upon arrival, the lodge staff will be waiting with a traditional Pachamanca dinner.

- ⌄ 5,1 miles / 8,2 km
- ⌚ Approximately 3 hours
- ⚡ Moderate

Meals: B, L, D

Overnight: Lamay Lodge

DAY 4**CANCHA CANCHA**

After an early breakfast, depart Lamay Lodge for a short drive to the town of Huaran in the Sacred Valley. From there, begin an all-day hike to the remote village of Cancha Cancha along a traditional Inca trail. Trip briefing and dinner around the campfire.

- ⌄ 5,4 miles / 9 km
- ⌚ Approximately 6,5 hours
- ⚡ Challenging

Meals: B, L, D

Overnight: Premium camping at Cancha Cancha

DAY 5**HIKE TO HUMANTAY LAKE**

Begin the day with a hearty breakfast at the Cancha Cancha campsite in preparation for the morning hike up to the Pachacutec Pass. After a picnic lunch at the pass, continue hiking down to the remote village of Quiswarani.

- ⌄ 8 miles / 13,5 km
- ⌚ Approximately 6 hours
- ⚡ Challenging

Meals: B, L, D

Overnight: Premium camping at Quiswarani

DAY 6**HUACAHUASI**

After breakfast, set out on a morning hike to the Sonqococha Lagoon, followed by a picnic lunch before continuing on to Quelquena. After a brief rest, embark on the final hike of the day to Huacahuasi Lodge.

- ⌄ 7,9 miles / 12,7 km
- ⌚ Approximately 4-6 hours
- ⚡ Challenging

Meals: B, L, D

Overnight: Huacahuasi Lodge

DAY 7

JAUKANI

Start the day with a visit to a remote village, celebrated for their exquisite traditional Andean textiles, to begin a morning hike to Jaukani. Afterwards, enjoy a picnic lunch before driving back to Huacahuasi.

- ⌄ 5,6 miles / 9 km
- ⌚ Approximately 4 hours
- ⚡ Moderate to challenging

Meals: B, L, D

Overnight: Huacahuasi Lodge

DAY 8

OLLANTAYTAMBO

The day begins with breakfast at dawn and an early departure on a morning hike from Huacahuasi to Patacancha. Upon arrival, your MLP driver will be waiting to take you on a short scenic drive from Patacancha to Pumamarca for lunch and guided exploration of the Pumamarca archaeological site. The day ends with a hike along spectacular Inca terraces to Ollantaytambo, the oldest 'living city' in South America. Trip briefing and dinner at the hotel.

- ⌄ 8 miles / 20 km
- ⌚ Approximately 8 hours
- ⚡ Challenging

Meals: B, L, D

Overnight: El Albergue

DAY 9

THE SUN GATE

After breakfast, catch an early-morning train from Ollantaytambo to the KM 104 marker along the rail route. After crossing the Chachabamba Bridge, you will begin a full-day hike along the classic Inca Trail through Winay Wayna to the celebrated Sun Gate entrance of Machu Picchu. Upon arrival, descend along the perimeter of the citadel to catch the shuttle bus down to Aguas Calientes at the base of Machu Picchu.

- ⌄ 7,5 miles / 12 km
- ⌚ Approximately 6 hours
- ⚡ Challenging

Meals: B, L, D

Overnight: Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel

DAY 10

THE CITADEL OF MACHU PICCHU

Breakfast at dawn followed by an early-morning guided tour of the Machu Picchu citadel. After the tour, hike up Huayna Picchu Mountain*, and then return to Aguas Calientes for lunch before catching an afternoon train to Ollantaytambo to meet your MLP vehicle for the sunset drive back to Cusco.

***Note:** Tickets for Huayna Picchu Mt. (8,924' / 2,720m) may be available subject to additional cost. In the event that Huayna Picchu permits are not available for your desired date, you may opt for a hike up Machu Picchu Mt. (10,112 / 3,082m), located next to the Machu Picchu Citadel on the southern side. Please consult with your MLP Travel Specialist for detailed information.

- ⌄ 2,5 miles / 4 km
- ⌚ Approximately 3,5 hours
- ⚡ Moderate to challenging

Meals: B, L

ADDITIONAL NOTES | BLACK DIAMOND TREK TO MACHU PICCHU

- Lodging in Cusco before and after your MLP adventure is not included in the itinerary; however, we invite you to book accommodations at one of our Signature MLP Properties in Cusco, Please ask your MLP Travel Specialist for more details and help with securing reservations at your hotel of choice in Cusco.
- **Extend Your Stay:** Combine MLP Trip Extensions with your MLP Signature Adventure to create your own customized travel experience. Contact your MLP Travel Specialist for more details and help with securing reservations for your extended itinerary.