



MOUNTAIN
LODGES
Peru

THE GRAND ANDEAN EXPERIENCE TO MACHU PICCHU

an immersion into the inca legacy



The Grand Andean Experience to Machu Picchu

The Grand Andean Experience to Machu Picchu is a 10-day journey through ancient history, living culture and the magnificent landscape of Cusco and the Sacred Valley of the Incas. This once-in-a-lifetime exploration into the sacred havens of the Incas is equal parts physical, cultural and spiritual journey, a journey of knowledge and transformation gathered while trekking, biking, sightseeing and enjoying the plush comfort of warm, welcoming high mountain Lodges.

Enjoy the uncrowded paths, authentic encounters with local people and the silence and mysticism of the Andes.

THE GRAND ANDEAN EXPERIENCE

10 day expedition

Day 01

Exploring Písaq

Day 02

Into the heart of Lares

Day 03

The road to Ollantaytambo

Day 04

On the way to Soraypampa

Day 05

Hike to Humantay Lake

Day 06

Crossing the Salkantay pass

Day 07

Descending into the cloud forest

Day 08

Following the Santa Teresa river valley

Day 09

The first views of Machu Picchu

Day 10

The Citadel of Machu Picchu



The Grand Andean Experience to Machu Picchu

Legend

- Hike
- Train
- Urubamba River
- Route (by vehicle)



Sacred Valley of the Incas

EXPLORING PISAQ

Start the trip with a morning visit to Awanacancha, an Andean camelid exhibition and traditional weaving center, and the famous market of Písac. Its unique array of products will inspire you with a taste of rich Andean culture.



Sacred Valley of the Incas**EXPLORING PISAQ**

As an alternative, travelers can opt for an invigorating morning hike surrounded by amazing views. Afterwards, at the isolated community of Viacha, learn about traditional Andean farming techniques.



Sacred Valley of the Incas

EXPLORING PISAQ

at a glance



lunch with a view



Pachamanca



Lamay Lodge

ACTIVITY MENU

Morning to noon

CULTURAL ACTIVITY

Visit Awanakancha (an Andean camelid exhibition and traditional textile center), the town of Písaq and local market, and experience an encounter with members of the local community of Viacha.

HIKE

From the local community of Amaru to the local community of Viacha

Approximately 3 hours

Moderate

Max. elevation: 14,200' / 4,328 m

GROUP ACTIVITY

Meet the Viacha locals and learn about their traditional Andean farming practices. In the afternoon, the whole group visits the archaeological site of Písaq, before heading back to the lodge.

OVERNIGHT

Lamay Lodge (9,705' / 2,958m)

Lares Valley

INTO THE HEART OF LARES

On this day you will go even deeper through an exploration into the heart of the Andes: the Lares Valley. Visit the truly unique archaeological site of Ancasmарca along the hub-town of Lares, a site not often visited by tourists and so allows for an intimate experience.



Lares Valley

INTO THE HEART OF LARES

Visit the ancient weavers' village of Choquecancha or opt for a hike amidst turquoise blue lakes to the village of Huacahuasi.



Lares Valley

INTO THE HEART OF LARES

at a glance



colorful



Huacahuasi lodge

GROUP ACTIVITY

Morning to noon

In the morning, briefly explore the town of Lamay and visit the archaeological site of Ancasmarca.

ACTIVITY MENU

Afternoon

CULTURAL ACTIVITY

Visit the town of Choquecancha, meet with local weavers and visit the old church.

HIKE 1

Quelquena to Huacahuasi

Approximately 3 hours

Easy to moderate

Max. elevation: 12,595' / 3,839m

HIKE 2

Cuncani to Huacahuasi

Approximately 4 hours

Moderate

Max. elevation: 13,838' / 4,219m

OVERNIGHT

Huacahuasi Lodge (12,585' / 3,835m)

Note: Guests that opt for the cultural activity will have lunch at the local community of Choquecancha. Guests that opt for the hikes will have lunch en route.

*The Patacancha and Sacred Valley of the Incas***THE ROAD TO OLLANTAYTAMBO**

After breakfast, drive from Huacahuasi to Patacancha and spend time with community members to learn about local produce and Andean medicinals before moving on to the village of Huilloc. From there, embark on a vigorous hike to Pumamarca, or choose to visit the sheepherding community of Marcacocha to participate in a traditional Andean ceremony in honor of the apus (Inca deities) for the good health of their flock. Midday, your group will reunite in Pumamarca for lunch and a tour of the archaeological site.



The Patacancha and Sacred Valley of the Incas

THE ROAD TO OLLANTAYTAMBO

In the afternoon, hike from Pumamarca through the verdant agricultural terraces along the Urubamba Valley, or opt for a scenic drive Ollantaytambo, the oldest 'living city' in South America, to explore its charming maze-like streets and alleyways.

After reuniting in Ollantaytambo, the afternoon ends with an optional visit to an artisan beer brewery before check-in and dinner in your Sacred Valley hotel.



The Patacancha and Sacred Valley of the Incas

THE ROAD TO OLLANTAYTAMBO

at a glance



Perfect ending



craft beer



ACTIVITY MENU

All day

CULTURAL ACTIVITY

Spend time in with the community members of Patacancha to learn about local produce and Andean medicinals. Visit the local community of Huilloc and later share a unique Andean Ceremony, explore the farming terraces on the way to Ollantaytambo town, where you will find a living Inca stone town.

HIKE 1

In the morning

From Huilloc to Pumamarca, stopping by the Ayar Orco Inca Cemetery

Approximately 3 hours

Moderate

GROUP ACTIVITY

Visit the archaeological site of Pumamarca

HIKE 2

In the afternoon

From Pumamarca to Ollantaytambo

Approximately 3 hours

Moderate

OPTIONAL

Enjoy a visit to an artisanal brewery (This activity has an additional cost).

OVERNIGHT

Hotel in the Sacred Valley of the Incas (9,284' / 2,830 m)

*Sacred Valley of the Incas***ON THE WAY TO SORAYPAMPA**

On this day, the first stop is a visit to the Quillarumiyoc archaeological site en route to the mountain village of Mollepata. Enjoy lunch at El Pedregal, a beautiful farmhouse in the village, where you will also have the opportunity to learn about local agriculture and livestock.



*Sacred Valley of the Incas***ON THE WAY TO SORAYPAMPA**

After lunch comes a scenic ride on the winding mountain road to Challacancha. Here you will begin your hike to our flagship Salkantay Lodge at Soraypampa along a picturesque path called the “Camino Real” (Royal Path).



Sacred Valley of the Incas

ON THE WAY TO SORAYPAMPA

at a glance



sweet local flavors



Handmade textiles



GROUP ACTIVITY

Morning to early afternoon

Visit Quillarumiyoc and the village of Mollepata, stopping for a short visit to Yanapana, Mountain Lodges of Peru NGO.

HIKE

Challacancha to Soraypampa

Approximately 3 hours

Easy to moderate

OPTIONAL

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

OVERNIGHT

Salkantay Lodge (12,690' / 3,869 m)

*Soraypampa***HIKE TO HUMANTAY LAKE**

This day presents another opportunity to gauge your altitude-acclimatization with a halfday 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.



Soraypampa**HIKE TO HUMANTAY 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 HUMANTAY LAKE

at a glance



Horseback riding



Tubbing

ACTIVITY MENU

HIKE

Σ Salkantay Lodge - Lake Humantay - Salkantay Lodge

🕒 Approximately 4 hours

🚶 Moderate to challenging

OVERNIGHT

Salkantay Lodge (12,690' / 3,869 m)

Note: While the morning hike to Lake Humantay is optional, we strongly recommend your participation in preparation for the strenuous hike on day three.

*Soraypampa***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).



*Soraypampa***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.



Soraypampa

CROSSING THE SALKANTAY PASS

at a glance



lunch spot



Breathtaking scenery

ACTIVITY MENU

Morning to noon

HIKE

Σ Soraypampa - Wayracmachay

🕒 Approximately 7 hours

🧗 Challenging

⚓ Max. elevation: 15,213' / 4,640m

OVERNIGHT

Wayra Lodge (12,812' / 3,906 m)

Wayracmachay

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.



Wayracmachay**DESCENDING INTO THE CLOUD FOREST**

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.



Wayracmachay

DESCENDING INTO THE CLOUD FOREST

at a glance



Andean cuisine





time to relax

ACTIVITY MENU

HIKE

 Wayracmachay - Collpapampa

 Approximately 4 hours

 Easy to moderate

OVERNIGHT

Colpa Lodge (9,414' / 2,870 m)

*Collpapampa***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.



Collpapampa

FOLLOWING THE SANTA TERESA RIVER VALLEY

at a glance



ACTIVITY MENU

HIKE

Σ Collpapampa - Lucmabamba

🕒 Approximately 6 hours

🧭 Moderate to challenging

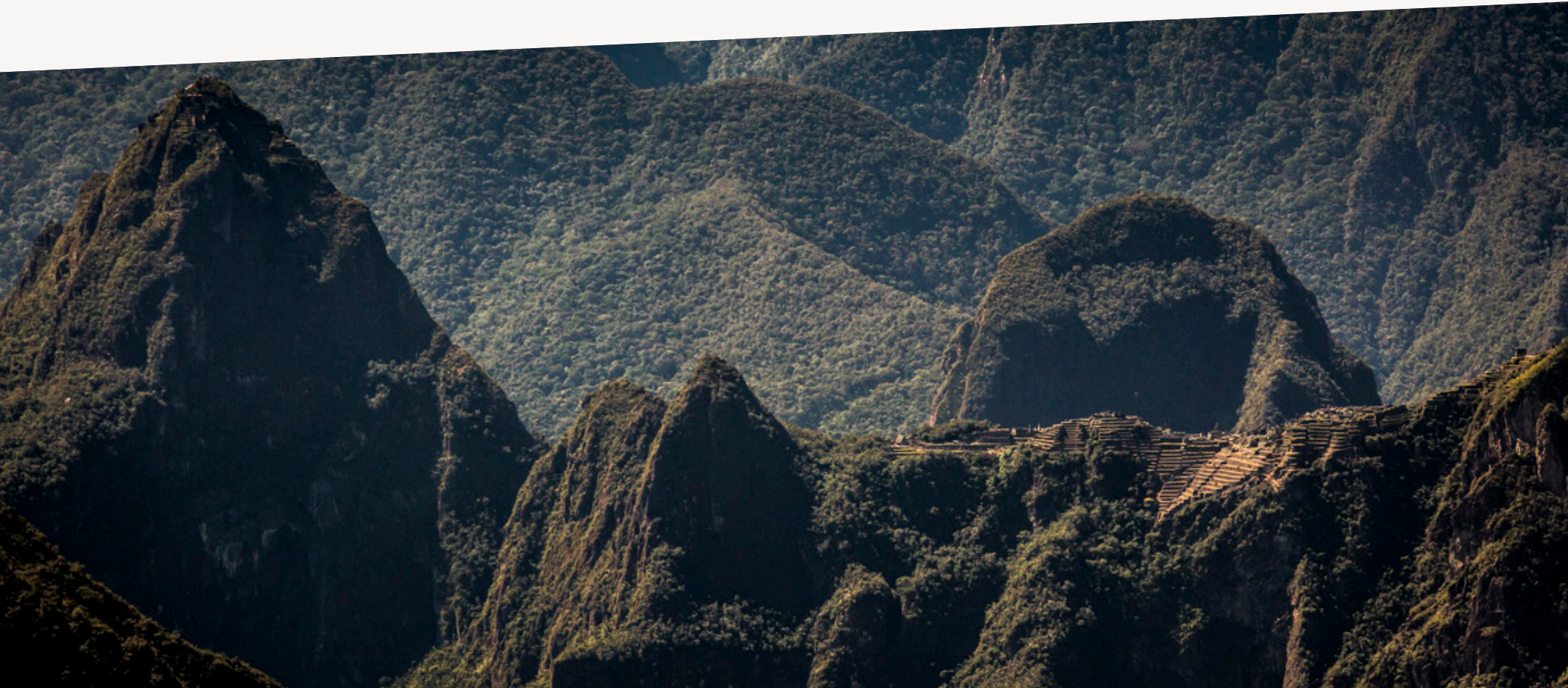
OVERNIGHT

Lucma Lodge (7,003' / 2,135 m)

Lucmabamba

FIRST VIEWS OF MACHU PICCHU

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.



*Lucmabamba***FIRST VIEWS OF MACHU PICCHU**

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

FIRST VIEWS OF MACHU PICCHU

at a glance



Sunny days



The jungle



ACTIVITY MENU

HIKE

Z Lucmabamba - Santa Teresa

⌚ Approximately 5 hours

🚶 Moderate to challenging

OVERNIGHT

Hotel in Aguas Calientes (6,232' / 1,900 m), located at the base of Machu Picchu.

*Machu Picchu***THE CITADEL OF MACHU PICCHU**

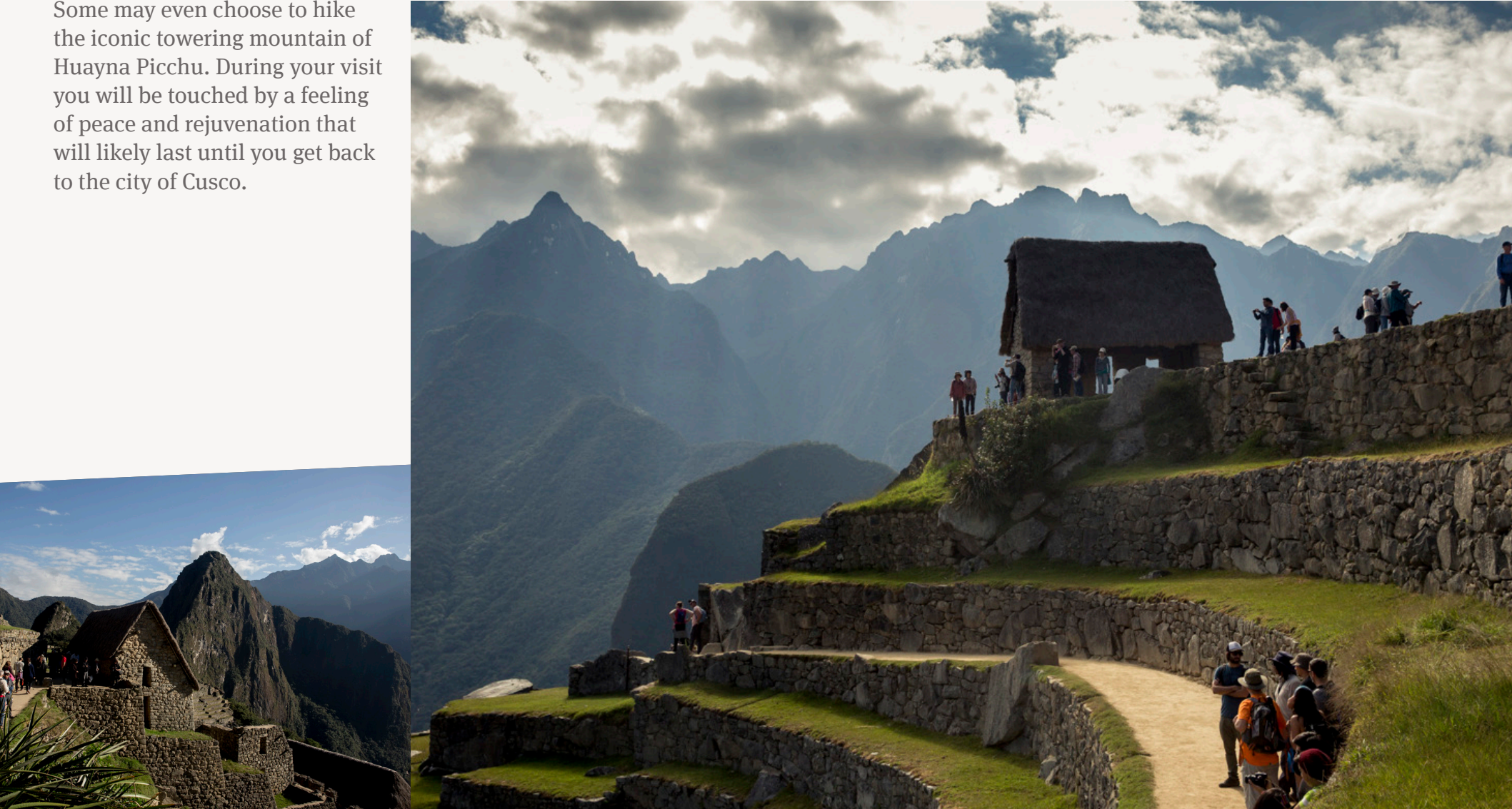
At dawn, you begin your journey to Machu Picchu. As you enter the “Sanctuary”, the morning sun rises over the iconic Sun Gate and washes the structures and terraces with resplendent light. Prepare to be awed by the imposing and skillful architecture. Take a moment to quietly sit and listen to the wind... Your imagination will soar as you contemplate the history of Machu Picchu and its mysterious origins.



Machu Picchu

THE CITADEL OF MACHU PICCHU

Some may even choose to hike the iconic towering mountain of Huayna Picchu. During your visit you will be touched by a feeling of peace and rejuvenation that will likely last until you get back to the city of Cusco.



Machu Picchu

THE CITADEL OF MACHU PICCHU

at a glance



Machu Picchu

ACTIVITY MENU

Morning to noon

OPTIONAL HIKE

Σ Huayna Picchu Mountain

⌚ Approximately 4 hours

⚡ Challenging

⚓ Max. elevation: 8,924' / 2,720m

Note: Huayna Picchu Mountain tickets are subject to availability. In the event that Huayna Picchu permits are not available for your desired date, Machu Picchu Mountain (the second peak within the sanctuary) permits will be secured instead.



Explore



ADDITIONAL SERVICES

SPEND AN EXTRA DAY AT 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.

OPTION A

- One (1) additional night at Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel, including dinner and breakfast & lunch the next day
- One (1) single-entrance ticket to Machu Picchu
- Round-trip shuttle bus transportation from Aguas Calientes
- Transportation from Ollantaytambo train station back to Cusco

OPTION B

- One (1) additional night at Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel, including dinner and breakfast & lunch the next day
- Transportation from Ollantaytambo train station back to Cusco

OPTION C

- One (1) additional night at Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel, including dinner and breakfast & lunch the next day

FULL-SERVICES PACKAGES

Let us make your MLP Adventure even better with some itinerary additions to simplify planning and make your journey truly unforgettable!

Our MLP travel specialists are happy to organize hotel reservations, airport transfers, and personalized tours during your stay in Peru.

Andenes



XO Art



MLP recommends arriving in Cusco 1-2 days prior to the start of your adventure to get comfortable with the altitude while you explore this fascinating historical city. You may also want to consider spending an extra day in Machu Picchu during your journey.

We are pleased to offer these new lodging and services packages designed for your convenience.

PACKAGE 1

- Round-trip Cusco airport transfers
- Two (2) nights lodging at MLP Properties
- One (1) night lodging at MLP Properties upon return to Cusco
- One (1) additional night at Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel, including dinner and breakfast & lunch the next day
- One (1) single-entrance ticket and round-trip shuttle bus transportation from Aguas Calientes
- Transportation from Ollantaytambo train station back to Cusco

PACKAGE 2

- Round-trip Cusco airport transfers
- Two (2) nights lodging at MLP Properties before or after your MLP adventure
- Additional Day at Machu Picchu – Option A:
- One (1) additional night at Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel, including dinner and breakfast & lunch the next day
- One (1) single-entrance ticket and round-trip shuttle bus transportation from Aguas Calientes
- Transportation from Ollantaytambo train station back to Cusco

PACKAGE 3

- Round-trip Cusco airport transfers
- Three (3) nights lodging at MLP Properties before or after your MLP adventure
- Transportation from Ollantaytambo train station back to Cusco

HOTEL AND TRANSFER INFORMATION



Airport Transfers

Private vehicle transfers to and from the Cusco airport. Upon arrival in Cusco, guests will be met at the airport by an MLP representative and escorted to their vehicle.

MLP Travel Extension Packages

Let our MLP travel specialists help you expand your itinerary beyond Cusco and Machu Picchu! Visit other iconic destinations in Peru's colorful Andean highlands, lush Amazonian jungle, and expansive desert coastline. We offer curated trip extensions in The Sacred Valley of the Incas, Arequipa/ Colca Canyon, Nazca/Paracas, Lake Titicaca, the Amazon, and more.

Andenes - new!

Andenes, our new property in Cusco features 16 beautifully appointed guest rooms, including two superior deluxe suites, plus an independent Apart Suite. The property's interiors are curated with a mix of colonial ambiance and modern aesthetics, inspired by the culture and tradition of this unique destination including the andenes or agricultural platforms that make up the foundation of the original colonial house. It is located in the San Blas neighborhood, just steps away from the picturesque main square.

www.andenesCUSCO.com

X.O Art House

X.O Art House, by Mountain Lodges of Peru is a unique luxury lodging experience housed in a restored Spanish Colonial casona in the city's San Blas art quarter. This intimate property is comprised of only seven guest rooms that feature works of art by notable contemporary Cusqueñan artists and offers full-service personalized attention.

www.xoarthouseCUSCO.com

Palacio Del Inka

A Luxury Collection Hotel, Palacio del Inka offers 5-star accommodations in a historic Spanish Colonial mansion, centrally located and adjacent to the Inca Temple of the Sun. www.libertador.com.pe/en/hotel/palacio-del-inka-luxury-collection/

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.



GUIDES

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.



GIVING BACK



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.



MOUNTAIN
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embrace life, encounter adventure

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