

**The Heart of The Empire
(6 DAYS – 5 NIGHTS)**



TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

6 days/5 nights

Departure: Cusco

An in-depth experience of the Sacred Valley and its history

Includes shared tour of archeological sites nearby Cusco and of Machu Picchu

ROUTE

DAY 1 | ARRIVAL CUSCO – SACRED VALLEY (75km – 2 hours)

DAY 2 | SACRED VALLEY – CHINCHERO – OLLANTAYTAMBO

DAY 3 | SACRED VALLEY – MACHU PICCHU (115km – 4 hours)

DAY 4 | MACHU PICCHU – CUSCO


DAY 5 | CUSCO: CITY TOUR AND ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES

DAY 6 | DEPARTURE CUSCO



MAP



 **Start & finish destination**
1. Cusco

 **Destinations**
2. Sacred Valley
3. Machu Picchu

TRIP OVERVIEW

Being the cradle of one of the most enigmatic civilizations in history and home to 11 UNESCO World Heritage Sites, Peru is quite a special destination, as you'll discover over six fascinating days exploring the country. Visit beautiful colonial cities, impressive archeological sites, and discover some of the most spectacular landscapes on the planet en route to the magnificent Machu Picchu citadel and mountain.



DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 1 | ARRIVAL CUSCO – SACRED VALLEY (75km – 2 hours)

Arrive at Alejandro Velasco Astete International Airport in Cusco. Upon arrival, a representative will be waiting to greet you at the airport and the transportation service will transfer you to your Sacred Valley hotel. En route to the hotel, following the road to Pisac, you will make a stop at the Inkariy Museum where you will learn about the pre-Columbian history and traditions of Peru. This museum features a chronological circuit of exhibits that will not only give you an insight into the impressive Inca Empire, but will also introduce you to the lesser-known peoples of Peru, including the Caral, Chavín, Paracas, Moche, Nasca, Wari, Malbayeque and Chimú cultures. Upon arrival at your hotel, check in to your room and enjoy some free time to make use of the hotel facilities or to relax and re-charge your batteries ready for the trip ahead. Domestic flight from Lima to Cusco must arrive not later than 10:30hrs. Noon arrivals are too late.



DAY 2 | SACRED VALLEY – CHINCHERO – OLLANTAYTAMBO

Today breakfast at the hotel is followed by visit to the town of Chinchero, a small high-altitude town offering beautiful views of the valley and the chance to witness traditional clothing, customs and local handicrafts. Visit archeological remains and a beautiful seventeenth-century church, one of the first Catholic buildings in Peru. You will then be transferred to the Yucay Museum of Living Culture, where you can see textiles, adobe **pottery and silverware** being crafted using techniques dating back to the Incas. This center not only gives you an insight into local Andean traditions, but you also have the opportunity to feed the llamas, sheep and alpacas! Feel the true spirit of the Sacred Valley as you sample a lunch of local cuisine in a cozy restaurant in Ollantaytambo. After eating, explore the streets of Ollantaytambo, inhabited uninterruptedly since Inca times, and climb the iconic fortress built into the mountainside. At the end of the day, return to your hotel to rest full of the spirit of the Incas.

*On Sundays, you may also visit the local market.

Overnight in Sacred Valley.



DAY 3 | SACRED VALLEY – MACHU PICCHU (115km – 4 hours)

Wake up to breakfast at the hotel then transfer to the Ollanta station to begin your trip to Machu Picchu. Enjoy the approximately two-hour scenic train ride to Aguas Calientes, also known as 'Machu Picchu Pueblo', the last stop before entering the most important archeological site in Peru. It is believed that Machu Picchu was built for the Inca emperor Pachacútec around 1450 as a holiday residence. The citadel was abandoned just over 100 years later, probably as a result of the Spanish Conquest, although historians have never uncovered why it was abandoned or how it escaped the destruction that other Inca settlements faced. Instead, the jungle slowly engulfed its stone construction, covering it in a thick vegetation that kept it hidden and protected until the 'lost city of the Incas' was brought to international attention in 1911.



Your tour will introduce you to the origins of this impressive citadel and guide you around some of its most iconic monuments, such as the main square, the royal rooms, the Temple of the Three Windows, the circular towers, the Sacred Clock and cemeteries. At the end of the tour, return to Aguas Calientes for lunch and free time in the afternoon.

Overnight in Aguas Calientes.



DAY 4 | MACHU PICCHU – CUSCO (115km – 4 hours)

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before spending a relaxing morning at your leisure in Aguas Calientes, where you will find restaurants, bars, shops, and a craft market. Alternatively, you may return to Machu Picchu to further explore this spectacular ancient city. We highly recommend rising early and to watch the sun rise over the mountain, it truly is an unforgettable experience! Some of the best views of the sunrise can be found by hiking up Huayna Picchu, which houses a complex of underground temples, and Inti Punku (the Sun Gate), both more than 300 meters above the citadel itself. Another option is to take the short 30-minute trek to the Inca Bridge, the secret entrance to Machu Picchu used by the Inca army. Built into a spectacular path along a sheer mountain side, the simple plank bridge could quickly be removed to scupper the progress of any unwanted arrivals. In the afternoon, board the train back to Ollanta station where you will be met by the transportation service who will transfer you back to your hotel in Cusco.

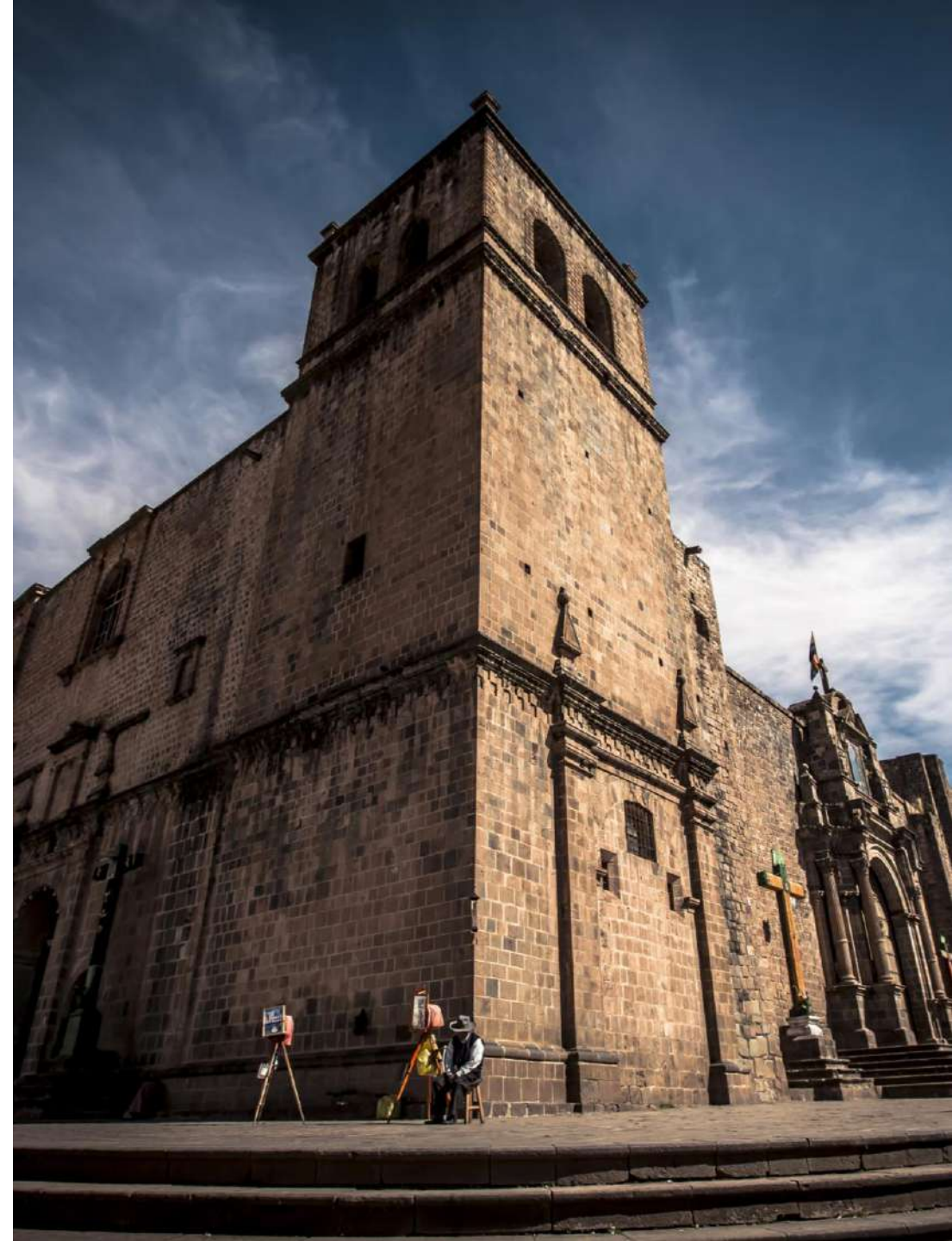
Overnight in Cusco.



DAY 5 | CUSCO: CITY TOUR AND ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES

After breakfast at the hotel, take advantage of your free morning in Cusco to rest at the hotel or to explore its cobblestone streets and shop for local handicrafts. In the afternoon, enjoy a guided tour of the capital of the Inca Empire. The tour begins at the Santo Domingo Convent, a building constructed on the site of Coricancha, one of the most important Incan complexes dedicated to sun worship. According to historical records, the original temple walls depicted scenes of nature and were covered in gold leaf. After Coricancha, visit the imposing cathedral in the Plaza de Armas, then head to the Cusco hills, where you'll find the fortress of Sacsayhuamán and panoramic views of Cusco. Continue on to Qenko, an archeological site where it is believed the Incas carried out religious rituals. Your tour ends in Puka Pukara, meaning 'strong red' in Quechua. Puka Pukara is an ancient military site comprising numerous rooms, courtyards, baths, aqueducts and towers. At the end of the tour, you will be transferred back to your hotel.

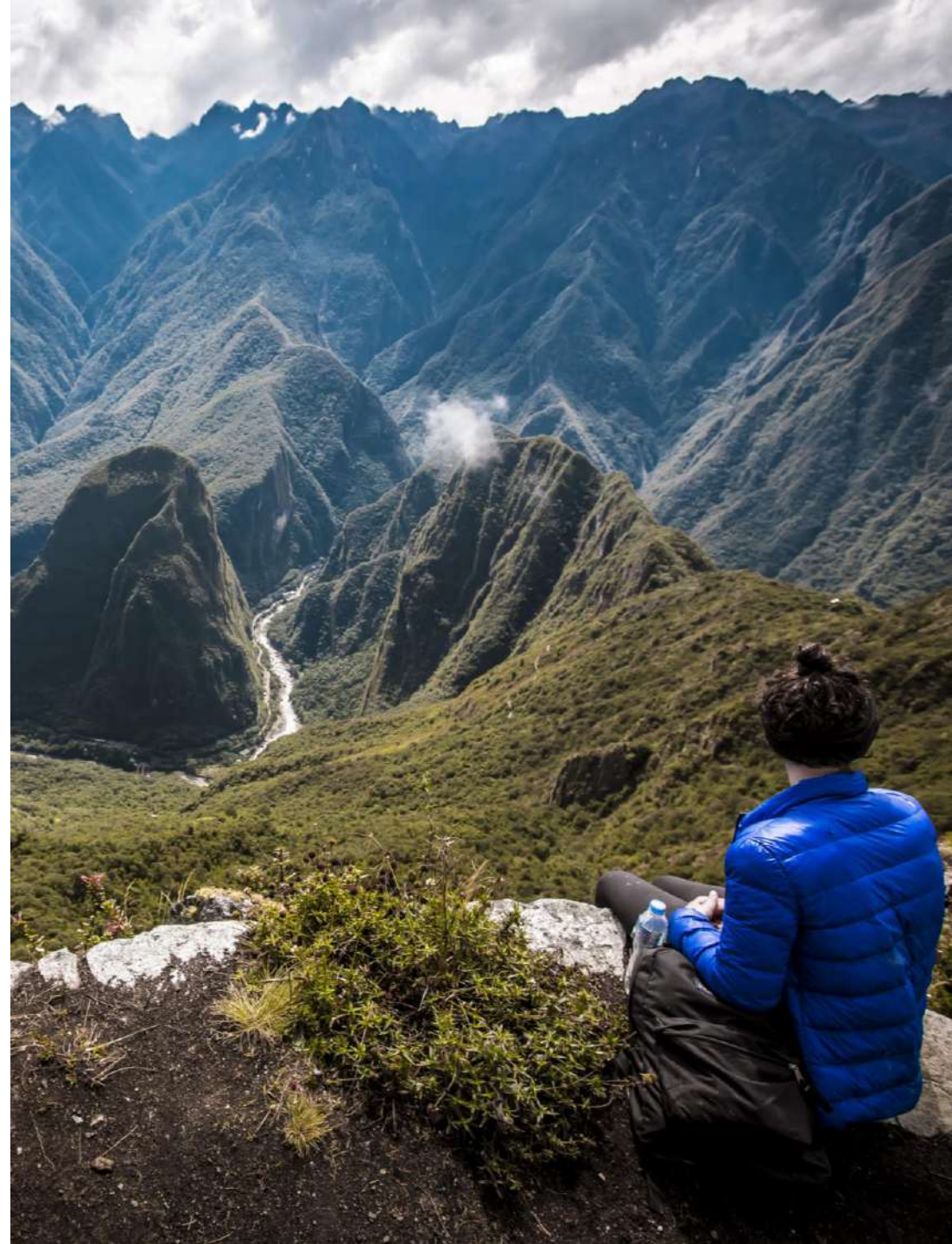
Overnight in Cusco.



DAY 6 | DEPARTURE CUSCO

After finishing your breakfast at the hotel, your representative will assist you with check out and accompany you on the transfer to the airport. Although this is the last day of your journey through the Sacred Valley, we hope that your memories of this remarkable region, bursting with both culture and history, will last a lifetime.

Breakfast included.



INCLUSIONS

GUIDE:

- English-speaking guide

ACCOMMODATION:

- Two nights of accommodation in Sacred Valley, one night of accommodation in Aguas Calientes, and two nights of accommodation in Cusco

MEALS:

- Breakfast at the hotel, starting from day 2
- Lunch on days 2 in Sacred Valley, and on day 3 in Aguas Calientes

TRANSPORT:

- Private transfers from and to the

airport

- Shared transfers from and to the train stations
- Train to Machu Picchu round trip in Expedition service (PeruRail) or Voyager (IncaRail)

ENTRANCE FEES AND ACTIVITIES:

- Admission to all major monuments and sightseeing attractions mentioned in above itinerary: Inkariy Museum, Living Museum of Yucay, Ollantaytambo and Chinchero archeological complexes in Sacred Valley, Machu Picchu on day 3, Coricancha, Sacsayhuaman, Qenqo, Tambomachay and Puca Pucara in Cusco; Cusco Tourist Ticket (BTC ticket) included

NOT INCLUDED

- Personal expenses. Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages during meals. Meals not stated in the program.
- Tips for driver and guide
- Additional optional visits
- Cusco Tourist Ticket (BTC) for children from ages 10 to 17
- Mandatory supplementary fees for special dates like Easter Holidays, Inti Raymi, National Holidays, Christmas and New Year's mentioned separately.
- International flights to Peru
- Domestic flights (we advise booking the first flights in the morning)
- International and domestic airport departure taxes

RATES

Period of departure: From Jan 1, 2020 to Dec 20, 2020

Package rates per person in US dollars in double accommodation

Period of departure	Category	Double
Jan 1 2020 to Dec 20 2020	Comfort	809
	Standard	829
	Superior	909
	First Class	999
	Luxury	1,385

Third person/child policy

- Child aged 0 to 1 year 11 months, no charge (no extra bed provided). Child aged 2 to 5 years is considered category 'child without bed'. Child aged 6 to 10 years is considered category 'child with bed'.
- Children aged 10 and up should consider the additional charge for the Cusco BTC ticket, detailed in the Optional Supplements section for all programs that include Cusco.



Other considerations

- Rates not applicable on the following dates in 2020: Easter holidays (April 5 to April 12), Inti Raymi sun festival (June 22 to 28), National Holidays (July 27 to 31), Christmas, New Year's, conferences or special events.
- All rates are per person and apply only to foreign passengers.
- Prices are subject to change without prior notice and can only be guaranteed once the reservation has been made.
- Rates do not apply to residents with more than 60 days of stay, nor corporate passengers (4 or more nights in Lima).
- Bookings shall include the passenger's full name, nationality, passport number, age and date of birth.



ADD-ONS

Want to get the most out of your trip? Let us know if you'd like to include these optional activities (all rates are per person and in US dollars):

Activity	Description	Price per person
Shared Pottery workshop by Art trail	Cusco traditional ceramics workshops: Glazed Ceramics and Colonial Gold Leaf application.	127 USD
Cusco Tourist Ticket (BTC) for children from ages 10 to 17	Includes entrances to: Ollantaytambo, Sacsayhuaman, Tambomachay, Puca Pucara, Pikillacta, Chinchero, Qenqo, Pisac, Moray, Tipon, Contemporary Art Museum, Coricancha Site Museum, Regional Museum, Pachacuti Monument	37 USD
Second entrance to Machu Picchu + bus	Second entrance to Machu Picchu plus bus	100 USD
Entrance to Machu Picchu Mountain + bus	Entrance to Machu Picchu Mountain plus bus	120 USD
Entrance to Huayna Picchu + bus	Entrance to Huayna Picchu plus bus	120 USD

TRAVELING
& LIVING IN
PERU

See you in Peru!
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