



C.C.N.O. CHILLIHUANI
**MONTAÑA DE
7 COLORES
VINICUNCA**
Altitud 5036 m.s.n.m.

The
Rainbow Mountain
Imperial

04 days | 03 nights



Description



Rainbow Mountain & Machu Picchu

Would you like to see everything in just one tour? You've found your match! We offer you a diverse combination of the fantastic City Tour, the Sacred Valley of the Incas, the Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu, and, as if it wasn't enough, the magical Rainbow Mountain. We'll take you, by train, from the living museum of Ollantaytambo to Aguas Calientes and, from there, to our Inca Modern Wonder. If you're looking to discover everything about the culture and traditions of ancient Peruvians, as well as have experiences that connect you with the descendants of the Quechua people, learn their customs, and be captivated by the amazing landscapes that Cusco has to offer, then this program is for you.

We'll take you on an unmatched journey. We'll start, first, with a City

Tour, traversing the main attractions of the city in its natural form. We'll continue exploring the Sacred Valley of the Incas, enjoying the unique beauty of the fields of Andean crops in these places. We'll also visit the enigmatic circular farming terraces of Moray and discover how, since time immemorial, salt has been extracted from Maras. Next, we'll travel from Ollantaytambo to Aguas Calientes and, then, to the Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu, a magical place that needs no introduction. We'll finish with a visit to the Rainbow Mountain, where you can marvel at the beauty of natural art in the colors of this wonderful landscape that rises in the middle of glaciers.

The background features a light gray map of a region with a complex coastline. On the left side, there are detailed topographic contour lines. A solid teal horizontal line spans across the middle of the image, partially obscured by the text.

Full Itinerary

Day 01

Cusco > City Tour: Sacsayhuaman > Q'enqo > Puca Pucara > Tambomachay > Qoricancha



Day Zero: Everything is New

We'll visit the main attractions of the city of Cusco in private transportation. We'll do small hikes in each archeological site that we visit. One of the highest places is Tambomachay (3,800 m / 12,467 ft) which, along with Puca Pucara and Q'enqo, form part of the archeological park of Sacsayhuaman. You'll be able to enjoy panoramic views of the city from these places.

After that, we'll visit two ancient temples of Cusco. The first, the Cathedral, has a colonial style with traces of Andean religiosity, famous for its paintings which marked a milestone for pilgrimages. Its influence extended over other viceroyalties, like Nueva Granada (Ecuador and Colombia) and La Plata (Argentina and Chile). The second sacred Inca temple is Qoricancha, whose influence couldn't be oppressed by

the Spanish conquerors; it continues resisting to this day with its fine walls of Inca stonemasonry carefully carved and fitted to seem as one large stone with whimsical lines drawn in.

After these visits, you'll have the night free to have dinner in the city. Our guide can recommend various restaurants according to your preferences.



Day Facts

Difficulty:
Easy

Tour Duration:
5-6 Hours

Min. Altitude:
3,400 m / 11,154 ft

Max. Altitude:
3,800 m / 12,467 ft

01 Tambomachay

02 Sacsayhuaman

03 Q'enqo

Day 02

Chincheru > Maras > Moray > Ollantaytambo > Aguas Calientes



In the Footsteps of the Inca Governors

Today, we'll pick you up early from your hotel to have a calm drive and avoid traffic. We'll go toward the picturesque town of Chincheru, an Inca settlement with streets lined by ancient walls, popular for the confection of textiles. We'll go to the home of a traditional, local family who has passed down the art of weaving from one generation to the next. We'll be part of an interactive demonstration of the techniques of dying and fabrication of textiles made from alpaca wool.

During the drive that follows, you'll be happy to see incredible views of the glaciers of Pitusiray and Sahuasiray. We'll then get to Moray, an agricultural laboratory made up of farming rings for the domestication and climatization of diverse Andean products, such as potatoes, olluco, corn, oca, and yucca, among others.

After that, we'll visit the salt mines of Maras, an salt extraction center since pre-Inca times that possess more than 5,000 salt pools, filled daily by water from a spring that flows from the mountain.

Carrying on with this spectacular day, we'll enjoy a buffet of traditional foods before continuing to Ollantaytambo. Here, we'll visit its main enclosures constructed with colossal stone blocks brought from quarries opposite the Sacred Valley. After the visit, we'll go to the train station and travel to the town of Aguas Calientes to spend the night.



Day Facts

Meals:
Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner

Difficulty:
Easy

Tour Duration:
9-10 Hours

Min. Altitude:
2,040 m / 6,693 ft

Max. Altitude:
3,762 m / 12,342 ft

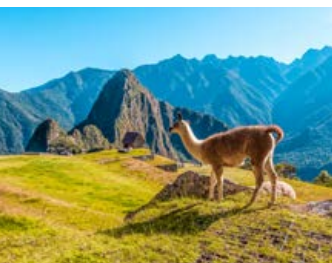
01 Chincheru

02 Maras salt mines

03 Terraces of Moray

Day 03

Aguas Calientes > Machu Picchu > Ollantaytambo > Cusco



In Search of the Old Mountain

Today, we'll start our day in a fantastic way; a wonder is waiting to be admired. Once we get there, Machu Picchu will open before our eyes in a spectacle without comparison, and we'll be able to enjoy it and better understand the relationship between man and nature.

We'll explore the citadel of Machu Picchu from corner to corner, traversing the main points of the most famous construction of the Incas and its sacred grounds. We'll learn about the way of life of these ancient Andean people and their ancestral customs. This tour wouldn't be possible without our professional guide who tells us not only stories but also many facts about this place. Get your camera ready, and don't forget to save these moments in your memory.

Back in Aguas Calientes, we'll have time to enjoy a good lunch before boarding the return train. With help from our guide, we can choose the best option. With a happy heart, we'll go back to Ollantaytambo, where our private transportation will be waiting to take us back to Cusco.



Day Facts

Meals:

Breakfast

Difficulty:

Easy

Walking Distance:

3 km / 1.86 mi

Machu Picchu Tour Duration:

2-3 Hours

Min. Altitude:

2,040 m / 6,693 ft

Max. Altitude:

2,430 m / 7,972 ft

01 Llama in the citadel of Machu Picchu

02 Machu Picchu

03 Alpaca in the citadel of Machu Picchu

Day 04

Cusco > Quiquijana > Llacto > Rainbow Mountain > The Red Valley > Cusco



The Rainbow Mountain behind the Ausangate Glacier

We'll finish our program by visiting the colorful Vinicunca mountain, more widely known as Rainbow Mountain. Before the rooster crows, we'll leave by private transportation toward Quiquijana, a small town where we'll have breakfast before continuing on to Llacto. Here, we'll start our hike. We'll begin uphill and, after about an hour, arrive at the highest point, the viewpoint of Rainbow Mountain (5,100 m / 16,732 pies). Here, nature has many beautiful hues. We'll rest for a moment, fix ourselves up, and smile with satisfaction for having achieved our goal; without a doubt, we have won the best prize, the splendor of this natural wonder.

Apart from that, we can enjoy the spectacular views of the surrounding mountains, including the grand glacier of Ausangate (6,384 m / 20,944 f), the

tallest mountain in the region of Cusco and the fifth highest in Peru. Next, we'll walk toward the viewpoint of the Red Valley, its exuberant landscape of intense color giving us the sensation that we're on the planet Mars.

To end our tour, we'll go down two hours to Llacto, and from there, we'll return to Cusco by private transportation. We'll keep in our memories the alpacas and llamas we saw along the way, as well as the dazzling colors of the natural canvas of Rainbow Mountain.



Day Facts

Meals:
Breakfast and Lunch

Difficulty:
Moderate

Hiking Distance:
13 km / 8.07 mi

Tour Duration:
12-13 Hours

Hiking Time:
5 hours

Starting Altitude:
4,376 m / 14,357 ft

Min. Altitude:
4,376 m / 14,357 ft

Max. Altitude:
5,100 m / 16,732 ft

01 Tourist viewing Ausangate mountain

02 Rainbow Mountain

03 Red Valley

The background features a light gray map of the Hawaiian Islands. On the left side, there are detailed topographic contour lines. At the bottom of the image, there is a dark gray silhouette of mountain ranges. Two horizontal teal lines are positioned behind the text: one to the left of 'Packing' and another to the right of '&'.

Inclusion & Packing List

What is Included?

High Quality Service & Safety

- **All Tours and Activities according to the Program**
- **Experienced Tour Guide**
An official English and Spanish-speaking tour guide will accompany you along the route. Your guide will explain the culture and surroundings and keep you safe, sound, and comfortable to enjoy your trip worry-free!
- **Medical Kit or First AID Kit**
All Ausangate Peru guides have received specialized training in first aid. We hold mandatory training sessions for them every February. Your guide will always have a first aid kit and oxygen to face basic emergencies (altitude sickness, travelers' diarrhea, cuts, scrapes, etc.). If necessary, we'll evacuate you from the path as quickly as possible and ensure that you arrive at a clinic for treatment.
- **Extras Included in our Service**
We believe that attention to small details is what sets us apart from other local companies. For Rainbow Mountain, you'll receive a pair of trekking poles and a rain poncho.
- **24/7 Customer Service**
We have telephone service available 24 hours/day for ease of

communication with Ausangate Peru leading up to your tour.

Accommodation

- **Hotel in Cusco (2 Nights)**
 - 2 nights in a 3-star hotel.
 - Rooms are double, twin, and triple occupancy.
- **Hotel in Aguas Calientes (1 Night)**
 - 1 night in a 3-star hotel.
 - Rooms are double, twin, and triple occupancy.

Meals

- **3 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, and 1 Dinner**
 - Day 2: Breakfast, Buffet Lunch, and Dinner
 - Day 3: Breakfast in Aguas Calientes
 - Day 4: Breakfast, and Lunch for the Rainbow Mountain Tour
- **Snacks and Water (Days 1 to 3)**
Each day, we'll provide you with a water bottle and snacks of local fruits, cookies, chocolate, caramels, etc.
- **One cloth snack bag per person**
To avoid the use of plastic bags that contaminate our environment, we'll give you a cloth bag for your snacks.

Transportation

- **Private Transport**
All transportation is included in this tour. We'll pick you up from your hotel and after the end of the trip, we'll drop you back at the door of your hotel in Cusco.
- **Train Tickets**
 - Day 2: Expedition Train from Ollantaytambo to Aguas Calientes
 - Day 3: Expedition Train from Aguas Calientes to Ollantaytambo
- **Round-Trip Bus Ticket Aguas**

Permits & Entrance Tickets

- **Entry to Maras Salt Mines**
- **Entry to the Rainbow Mountain and the Red Valley**
- **Entry Ticket to Machu Picchu Archaeological Site**



What is NOT Included?

✦ Boleto Turistico or Cusco Tourist Ticket

This ticket is required to access many of the most popular attractions in Cusco and the Sacred Valley, including archaeological sites and museums (applies to days 1 and 2).

- From PEN 70.00 (US\$ 20.00) to PEN 130.00 (US\$ 40.00) per person.

✦ Cusco's Cathedral Entrance Ticket

- Adult: PEN 40.00 (US\$ 11.00)
- Students and Children (11-17): PEN 20 (US\$ 6.00)
- Children (under 10): Free

✦ Qorikancha Entrance Ticket

- Adult: PEN 15.00 (US\$ 5.00)
- Students and Children (11-17): PEN 8.00 (US\$ 3.00)
- Children (under 10): Free

✦ Huayna Picchu Mountain

You can climb the famous mountain always seen in the photos behind the site of Machu Picchu. It's 45 minutes uphill, and coming down can be scary if you fear heights. You can take this excursion after concluding your guided tour in Machu Picchu. Due to high demand, permission must be issued at least one month in advance. Consider that there could be changes to protect your

integrity, mainly due to weather conditions.

- The Huayna Picchu Mountain ticket has an extra cost of US\$ 60.00 per person.

✦ Machu Picchu Mountain

Machu Picchu Mountain is another of the mountains that surround the archaeological site of Machu Picchu. It offers less steep, wider, and visually less frightening trails than Huayna Picchu, and it takes 1.5 hours to reach the top. This walk requires an entrance ticket which we can secure for you if requested in advance.

- The Machu Picchu Mountain ticket has an extra cost of US\$ 60.00 per person.

✦ Meals not indicated

✦ Personal Hiking Gear

✦ Travel Insurance

✦ Tips for our staff

Tipping is the standard in any excursion in Peru. Although we pay good salaries to our team, something extra is always welcome.

✦ Additional costs or delays beyond our control

Landslides, bad weather conditions, itinerary modifications due to a safety concern, illness, pandemics, government policy changes, political instability, strikes, an act of God, etc.

What Should you Bring

Essential packing list

- ☐ Duffle Bag
- ☐ Daypack

Documents

- ☐ Original Passport

Clothing

- ☐ Underwear
- ☐ Base Layer
- ☐ Trekking Shirts
- ☐ Hard Shell Jacket and Rain Gear
- ☐ Insulated Jacket
- ☐ Fleece Jacket
- ☐ Trekking Shorts and Trousers

Headgear

- ☐ Hat for Sun Protection
- ☐ Head Band or Beanie
- ☐ Neck Gaiter or Balaclava

Hands

- ☐ Inner Gloves
- ☐ Outer Gloves

Footwear

- ☐ Hiking Boots
- ☐ Trainers (Trekking shoes / sandals)
- ☐ Hiking Socks
- ☐ Thermal Socks
- ☐ Gaiters

Important Accessories

- ☐ Sleeping Bag
- ☐ Trekking Poles
- ☐ Sunglasses
- ☐ Headlamp
- ☐ Water Bottle or Hydration Bladder
- ☐ Camera / Videocamera
- ☐ Notebook / Journal and Pen



Personal Gear and Medications



✦ **Trekking Towel:**

A small to medium sized hiking towel can come in great use. LifeVentures or Discovery provide good, quick-drying trekking towels.

✦ **Small Locks:**

To protect your belongings in your rucksack or duffle bag

✦ **Waterproof Ziplock Bags:**

These come in handy for storing important / valuable items like your money, a passport and electrical equipment

✦ **Isotonic Powder:**

Can be used to flavour your water nicely and helps replace electrolytes, improving energy levels and aiding water absorption. Here are some good Isotonic powdered drinks

✦ **Diamox:**

Also known as acetazolamide, is a medication that can be used as a prophylactic (preventative) solution for altitude sickness. It does not cure altitude sickness and should never therefore be used as a method to continue ascending to high altitudes. It can however help prevent the onset of altitude sickness and is commonly used by high altitude climbers and trekkers.

✦ **General Medications:**

We recommend taking paracetamol or aspirin for headaches (a common altitude sickness symptom on the Salkantay Trek) and Imodium for diarrhoea (another common problem as food preparation can be a little unhygienic)

✦ **Basic First Aid Kit:**

If you are joining an organised trek, your guide will most likely be carrying a first aid kit. If you are hiking unsupported or independently then a first aid kit is a must. Here are some compact and good outdoor first aid kits: Outdoor First Aid Kits

✦ **Suncream / Lip balm:**

No one wants burnt skin or cracked lips! Be sure to bring 1 x suncream (SPF 30) and 1 x lip balm

✦ **Baby wipes:**

For quick and easy wet washes when no showers are in sight! bring 1 x baby wipes

✦ **Blister Plasters:**

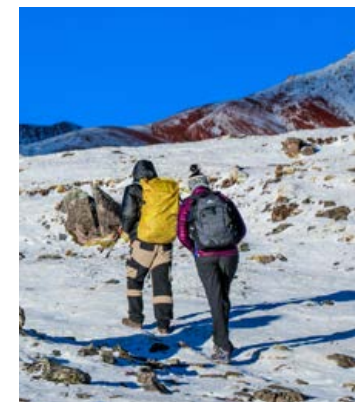
The dreaded blisters! We recommend taking Compeed blister plasters

✦ **Hand Sanitizer:**

Great for disinfecting hands before and after eating, or when they get dirty during the hike

Our Hiking Team **Our** Tour Guides

Your tour will be led by a trained and highly experienced professional with a very solid guiding background, years of hiking and wilderness experience, medical certifications, and a passion for leading people into unforgettable adventures.



Our Hiking Team

Our Cook

After a challenging trek we know how important a good hot meal can be to prepare your body and warm you up. That's why on every trek with Salkantay Trekking we employ chefs with years of experience cooking on the trails so that they provide filling.



Our Hiking Team **Meals** What to Expect

All of our hiking tours include a diversity of tasty meals packed full of critical carbohydrates, proteins and fats. We carry foods that travel well in the backcountry – rice, pastas, lentils, beans, couscous, packaged meats, nuts, breads, oatmeal, granola.



Our Hiking Team

Our Horseman & Horses

Our Horseman and his horses are in charge of all our gear and will always await us within the safe and comfortable camp sites.





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