

Earthbound Expeditions

Inca Trail Trek, Lima, Cusco

7 days, from US$2,587 per person

Duration	Group size	Country
7 days	**10 people**	**Peru**

Inca Trail Trek, Lima, Cusco Overview

Trek the classic Inca Trail to Machu Picchu, the Inca citadel and one of the seven wonders of the world, surrounded by mist, dense vegetation and steep cliffs.

Trek the classic Inca Trail to Machu Picchu, the Inca citadel and one of the seven wonders of the world, surrounded by mist, dense vegetation and steep cliffs.

The Inca Trail is the best-known trek in South America and is widely rated among the top 5 treks in the world. The route through the Sacred Valley to Machu Picchu combines Inca ruins, mountain scenery and cloud forest. This challenging trek usually takes four days, and you arrive at the Inca ruins of Machu Picchu at sunrise on the fourth day.

The total distance is only about 39 km, but the classic trail from the Sacred Valley to Machu Picchu climbs up and down and around the mountains. Our journey begins in Lima, the capital and largest city of Peru, from where we fly to Cusco, a city near the Urubamba Valley in the Andes. The trek starts after a three-hour bus ride through the Sacred Valley to Km 82 and passes several campsites before reaching Machu Picchu.

Along the way, you see snow-covered peaks and ranges, distant rivers, cloud forests and cliffs.

Itinerary

Day 1

Arrive in Lima

On arrival in Lima, we meet you and transfer you to your hotel for the night.

Altitude: 150 m On foot: None, arrival day Night: Hotel, Lima Meals: None

Day 2

Fly from Lima to Cusco, Cusco city tour

After an early breakfast, transfer from the hotel to the airport at the scheduled time for the flight to Cusco (flight not included). On arrival, we meet you and transfer you to your hotel. At the scheduled time, a guided city tour visits the Cathedral, important for its architecture and its collection of paintings from the Escuela Cusqueña (Cusco School); the Temple of the Sun, or Koricancha, which was used as the foundation of the Santo Domingo Monastery and is a classic example of the fusion of Inca and Western cultures; and the archaeological sites of Sacsayhuaman, Q'enqo, Pucapucara and Tambomachay. Return to the hotel.

Altitude: 3,400 m On foot: Easy walking, 2–3 hrs Night: Hotel, Cusco Meals: Breakfast

Day 3

Drive from Cusco to Km 82, trek to Wayllabamba

After an early breakfast, the tour starts with a three-hour bus ride through the Sacred Valley to Km 82 (the 54.68-mile post), at 2,750 m above sea level (9,022 ft). From here, you hike for approximately five hours through the Sacred Valley along the Urubamba river to the campsite at Wayllabamba, at 3,000 m above sea level (9,842 ft). Lunch and dinner are provided.

Altitude: 3,000 m On foot: 12 km, 5–6 hrs Night: Tented camp, Wayllabamba Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 4

Trek from Wayllabamba to Pacaymayo via Warmiwañusca Pass

After breakfast, we set off for Warmiwañusca Pass, at 4,200 m above sea level (13,779 ft), which has panoramic views of the Peruvian Andes. The trail then descends to the second campsite at Pacaymayo, at 3,600 m above sea level (11,811 ft). Total hiking time is approximately six to seven hours. Lunch and dinner are provided.

Altitude: 3,600 m On foot: 12 km, 6–7 hrs Night: Tented camp, Pacaymayo Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 5

Trek from Pacaymayo to Wiñaywayna via Puyupatamarca

After breakfast, the hike continues to the archaeological sites of Runkurakay, Sayacmarca, Phuyupatamarca and Wiñaywayna, at 2,650 m above sea level (8,594 ft). The third campsite is at Wiñaywayna. Total hiking time is approximately seven hours. Lunch and dinner are provided.

Altitude: 2,650 m On foot: 16 km, 7 hrs Night: Tented camp, Wiñay Wayna Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 6

Trek from Wiñaywayna to Machu Picchu, return to Cusco

After an early breakfast, the hike starts at 5:30 am to see the sunrise at Intipunku, the Sun Gate. We arrive at Machu Picchu at around 8:00 am for a two-hour guided tour. After the tour, you have free time to explore Machu Picchu. At the scheduled time, we descend to Aguas Calientes by shuttle bus for lunch, then take the train back to Cusco and transfer to your hotel. Lunch is included.

Altitude: 3,400 m On foot: 6 km, 4–5 hrs Night: Hotel, Cusco Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Day 7

Fly from Cusco to Lima, Lima city tour

After breakfast, a scheduled transfer takes you from the hotel to the airport for the flight to Lima (flight not included). On arrival, we meet you and transfer you to the hotel. At the scheduled time, you take a tour of Lima, the capital of Peru. It begins in the historic centre, with visits to important buildings such as the Government Palace, the Cathedral of Lima, the Archbishop's Palace and the Municipal Palace. It also includes the Church and Monastery of San Francisco, the largest complex of colonial art in the Americas. You will also see the stone facades and wooden balconies of the colonial houses. The tour passes Huaca Pucllana, a pre-Inca building that was most likely an important ceremonial and administrative centre of the Lima culture. The tour ends in the modern districts of San Isidro and Miraflores. San Isidro has modern apartment buildings and parks such as El Olivar, with olive trees brought from Spain in the 15th century. Miraflores has its Central Park and the Larcomar Shopping Centre overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Return to the hotel.

Altitude: 150 m On foot: Easy walking, 2–3 hrs Night: Hotel, Lima Meals: Breakfast

What's included

- Lima:
- 4 transfers in and out, Lima city tour.
- 2 nights in Lima with breakfast.
- Cusco:
- 2 transfers in and out, Lima city tour and visits to the surrounding ruins.
- 2 nights in Lima with breakfast.
- Inca Trail*:
- 4 days and 3 nights on the Inca Trail (original route).

- Bus to the start of the trek, transfers, porters (porters do not carry your personal items), bilingual guide, meals during the trek, Inca Trail entrance fees, tent, sleeping mattress, cooking equipment, stove, tables, chairs, etc.
- Return train to Ollantaytambo, and bus from Ollantaytambo to Cusco.
- You must carry a maximum of 6 kg. Important: a sleeping bag is not included.

Not included

- International and domestic airfares, visa fees, airport tax and any insurance cover.
- Main meals during the tour.
- Any transport of luggage during the hike.
- Expenses such as drinks, room service, laundry, telephone calls at hotels and tips.
- Any train tickets.
- Any additional expenses, or liability, arising from disruption to the trip programme due to circumstances such as weather conditions, sickness, natural disasters or riots.
- Liability for, or insurance against, injury, loss of life, accidents or loss of goods.
- Camera fees.
- Personal equipment such as sleeping bags, walking sticks, shoes and crampons.
- Any other expenses arising from bad weather, road closures, landslides, etc., and anything not listed as included.

Photos, videos and reviews of this trip: earthbound.rajansimkhada.com/inca-trail-trek-lima-cusco