



ADVENTURE
INTERNATIONAL



Salkantay Lodge Trek

Adventures for a Lifetime

Salkantay Lodge Trek

This trip is a unique version to experience visiting the world famous and iconic, Machu Picchu. Trekking from lodge-to-lodge, enjoying the comfort and service of quality mountain lodges you head on the path towards the Incan Empire that is set in the highlands of Peru. This journey will take you up to magnificent mountain passes, enjoying enormous and mystical snow-capped peaks. The Salkantay Trail offers a chance to trek on a path that is less crowded than the classic Inca Trail. You are able to have cultural interactions with locals who still remain closely attached to their heritage, from pastoralists to coffee farmers. Beginning in Cusco, spend your first day on an acclimatizing hike to the Sacred Valley before starting your trek. After the 6-day trek along the Salkantay, spend a few nights in Aguas Calientes, so that you are able to explore the ruins of Machu Picchu at a slow pace and even hike up to the top of Huayna Picchu or Machu Picchu. Depart on a train back to Cusco and extend your visit in Peru to Lake Titicaca or Manu National Park, where the Andes meets the Amazon - and home to wild jaguars!

In more detail...

Day 1 ~ Cusco

After landing in Jorge Chavez Lima International Airport, you connect with a flight to Cusco airport. Upon arrival you are personally met and transferred to your hotel in Cusco. In the afternoon there are options for a short city tour and visiting some artisan shops.

*Overnight La Casona Cusco Hotel (D) **other options available***

Day 2 ~ Sacred Valley

After breakfast we will drive to the Sacred Valley, stopping along the way to appreciate the spectacular scenery of the lush river valley and the snow-capped mountains of the Urubamaba range. We will continue past the community of Pisac, arriving at the famous village of Chawaytire where we will have time to see a successful cultural preservation project taking place in this Andean community. This magnificent project brought together farmers and shepherds to rescue the ancient techniques of using natural or traditional plants to dye sheep and alpaca to create elaborate, high quality textiles. Its an unforgettable experience in the remote Andes. After a nice picnic lunch we will drive back to the Pisac Inca archeological site to hike in this important agricultural and administrative center during Inca times before returning to Cusco. Tonight there is a comprehensive trek briefing *Overnight La Casona Cusco Hotel (B,L,D)*

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Day 3 ~ Salkantay Lodge

After an early breakfast, we are picked up starting at 700 am at our hotel in Cusco for the drive to the Salkantay Lodge in Soraypampa. En route we take a short break to visit the Inca ruins of Tarawasi near the town of Limatambo (approx. 1.5 hrs from Cusco). After leaving Limatambo, we pass through the mountain village of Mollepata where we stop for a short coffee break before ascending a winding mountain road to a place called Marcoccasa (30 minutes from Mollepata by vehicle). Here, we begin our trek to Soraypampa, on an old route called the “Camino Real” (Royal Path). This is a good opportunity for everyone to acclimate, while enjoying a beautiful 6 hour trek. Salkantay Lodge takes its name from the majestic peak at the head of the valley—Mt. Salkantay, the second most sacred peak in Inca mythology and, at 6,270 m (20,600 ft), the highest in the region. After a warm welcome by our friendly staff, we are shown to our rooms and have time to wash-up, before tea and cookies. The trip leader will hold a briefing by the fireplace, followed by aperitifs and dinner. *Overnight Salkantay Lodge (B,L,D)*

Day 4 ~ Hike to Humantay

Today we take an acclimatization hike on the slopes above the lodge to Lake Humantay, fed by the hanging glaciers of Mt. Humantay. The hike is optional, but the views are amazing, and those brave enough can even go for a dip. We return to the lodge for lunch, after which you may choose to trade the glacial swim for a relaxing soak in our outdoor jacuzzi. Afternoon at leisure. We spend the night at the Salkantay Lodge with gourmet food and warm, comfortable beds. In the evening, the guide briefs us on gear and the itinerary for the following day. All meals are served at the Lodge.

Overnight Salkantay Lodge (B,L,D)

Day 5 ~ Wayra Lodge

This is the big day! After an early start, we hike up the Rio Blanco valley, circling Humantay Peak across from Salkantay Peak. The highest point on the trek is the Salkantay Pass at 4,638m (15,213 ft). At the pass we stop to take in views of snowcapped peaks of the Vilcabamba Range in every direction, the glaciated south face of Salkantay towering above us. We will keep our eyes out for Andean condors, often visible in this area. From the pass we descend towards Wayra Lodge (“Wayra” means wind; so “the place where the wind lives”) our destination for the evening. A hot lunch is served en route; dinner and overnight at the Lodge. *Overnight Wayra Lodge (B,L,D)*

Day 6 ~ Colpa Lodge

On this day we enjoy a leisurely breakfast at Wayra Lodge. Then we continue our descent along the left bank of the Salkantay River, through increasingly verdant scenery. We can feel the warm air rising from the jungle, accompanied by colorful butterflies and striking orchids. Upon arrival at Colpa Lodge we are greeted with a Pachamanca meal, a traditional festive Peruvian meal cooked

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by layering meat and vegetables with hot stones, and then covering the whole thing up to bake. Colpa Lodge is located on an open plateau at the confluence of three rivers. The outdoor jacuzzi has panoramic views of lush green mountains. We spend the afternoon relaxing or exploring the nearby orchid trail. Dinner and overnight at the lodge. *Overnight Colpa Lodge (B,L,D)*

Day 7 ~ Lucma Lodge

Today we hike along the Santa Teresa river valley, through more populated rural areas. We pass through banana, granadilla, and avocado orchards and coffee plantations (said to be one of the best organic coffees in the world). A hot picnic lunch is served by the river. After lunch, we hike another hour before a private vehicle meets us for a short drive to the beginning of the “Llactapata Inca Trail” (30 minutes or so). From the head of the newly restored Inca trail we easily make our way to Lucma Lodge, set in an avocado orchard. Dinner and overnight at the lodge.

Overnight Lucma Lodge (B,L,D)

Day 8 ~ Aguas Calientes

After a hearty breakfast, we tackle the last day of our trek. We head uphill for 2-3 hours towards Llactapata Pass (2,736 m / 8,974 ft), where we come upon a distant but spectacular view of Machu Picchu Sanctuary from the southeast, a view few travelers ever get a chance to admire. We take a short break to explore the Llactapata Ruins, which have recently been restored. Lunch is served in a scenic viewpoint, looking out to Machu Picchu. We then begin our final descent to the Aobamba River through lush bamboo forests, orchards and coffee plantations. Aguas Calientes, the town of Machu Picchu, is a short, scenic train ride away. Upon arrival, we check into our lovely hotel for celebration dinner with our guide and one last briefing!

Overnight Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel (B,L,D)

Day 9 ~ Machu Picchu

After a very early buffet breakfast at the hotel, we make our way to the bus station for the ride up to Machu Picchu Sanctuary (30 min). Our trip leader will give the group an introductory two-hour guided tour of the ruins, after which we have the rest of the morning to explore the site on our own —there is a lot to do and see! There are options to hike up Huayna Picchu and Machu Picchu, which require permits so plan accordingly. In the afternoon you head back to Aguas Calientes at your leisure. *Overnight Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel (B,L,D)*

Day 10 ~ Cusco

Today you meet your train. The ride from Aguas Calientes to Ollantaytambo takes about one and

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a half hours, and then a private vehicle will drive you back to Cusco (an additional hour and a half). Upon arrival in Cusco you are dropped off at your hotel. *Overnight La Casona Cusco Hotel (B,L,D)*

Day 11 ~ Depart

You are transferred to Cusco airport to catch your flight to Lima and then you connect with departures. (B)

END OF SERVICES

*~ This is a sample itinerary that can be adjusted to suit your needs.
For more info about pricing, set departures, custom trips, etc ---
Please call +1 888 664 3865 or email us info@adventure-international.com ~*

