



REFUGIOS SALKANTAY

Join Us at Refugios Salkantay to The World Wonder Machu Picchu!

Travellers'
Choice™



SALKANTAY TREK INDEPENDENT 4 DAYS - 3 NIGHTS

4-Day Andes Trek To Machu Picchu:
Independent Adventure

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2024

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DAY 1

Cusco to Soraypampa (Humantay Lake) on the Salkantay Trek to Machu Picchu



We will pick you up at your hotel in Cusco between 4:40 am and 5:00 am in our private car, which will take you to the Mollepata community for a 2.5-hour journey towards the start of the Salkantay Trek. In Mollepata, my family will be waiting for you at the restaurant “La Casona”, where you will meet the founder of “Refugios Salkantay”, Mercedes Sotelo, and have the option to have breakfast before starting the hike.

You will leave your big backpack with our driver, who will take it to the hostel in Soraypampa. You only need to bring the essentials for the 2-hour hike.

Start of the hike:

A member of the Refugios Salkantay family will show you the start of the trail to Soraypampa (7 km - 4.35 miles) on the Salkantay Trek to Machu Picchu. The first part of the hike ascends a zigzag trail for about 30 minutes to reach a water channel that will guide you to Soraypampa. Upon arrival at Soraypampa, the first house you will see will be Refugios Salkantay, located right by the trail. Here we will invite you to have a coca tea and show you your private room with a private bathroom, hot water shower, and clean towels.


Experience authentic Inca cuisine: We will help you prepare the pachamanca, an ancestral cooking technique that uses hot stones to cook meats and vegetables. This unique culinary experience will allow you to immerse yourself in Inca history and traditions while enjoying delicious and nutritious meals.

After lunch and a short break, one of our family members will accompany you for about half an hour to show you the way to the impressive Humantay Lake (4200 m - 13779 feet) on the Salkantay Trek to Machu Picchu. This is a round trip hike of 5 km (3.1 miles) that will take approximately 3 hours.

Humantay Lake is one of the most beautiful points of the Salkantay Trek, with its turquoise lake that reflects the surrounding glaciers and the sacred Humantay Mountain. You will also see the spectacular snow-capped peaks of the Salkantay Glacier, one of the most sacred mountains of Inca mythology. Upon return, there will be a snack and a delicious dinner waiting for you.


 Food (Lunch - Dinner)

 WiFi

 Hot shower

 Cell phone charging

 Bed

 Moderate (10km / 6,20 mil)

 Towels

 5 hours

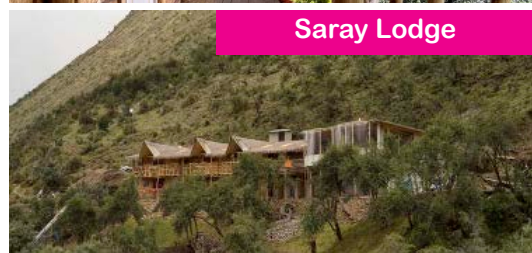


The Pachamanca Experience

- Starting elevation: 3,380 meters / 11,089 feet.
- Highest elevation (Humantay Lake):4,300 meters /14,107 feet.
- OVERNIGHT: Refugios Salkantay: 3,850 meters /12,631 feet.
- Approximate night-time (outside) tem-



Refugios Salkantay



Saray Lodge



Humantay Lake

DAY 2

Soraypampa to Lucmabamba (Family Home) on the Salkantay Trek to Machu Picchu









Wake up to a 5:00 am coca tea alarm, followed by a delicious breakfast waiting for you in our dining room at 5:30 am. (Your main backpacks will be transported by the families of Refugios Salkantay on mules). At 6:00 am, we will start our day's hike by scaling the highest part of the trail, the Salkantay Pass (4650 m/15255 ft). The distance is 7 km (4.34 miles) on a steep ascent and will take approximately 3 hours from the base of the rocky valley to the magnificent Salkantay Mountain (6271 m / 20574 ft).

When we reach the summit of the pass, we will catch our breath and admire the stunning views of the surrounding valleys and towering snow-capped peaks that surround us, including the mountains Salkantay, Humantay, and Tucarhuay. Salkantay Mountain is the second highest mountain in the Cusco region.

If you are tired or experience any altitude symptoms, do not worry, there will always be a member of the Refugios Salkantay families nearby and they will have a horse for you to ride on the most challenging part of the trail (Soraypampa to Salkantay Pass). We also have a first aid kit and an oxygen ball.

Once we have reached the highest point of the hike, we will descend for approximately 2 hours to reach the town of Huayracmachay where a delicious lunch awaits you. Along the way, you will see a small house with a large sign that says Refugios Salkantay, if you are afraid of missing it, do not worry, the local family that accompanied you to the Salkantay Pass on horseback will be waiting for you in Huayracmachay. After a delicious lunch, we will continue our journey to Chalway, accompanied by a member of the local families who will accompany you on horseback, carrying your heavy backpacks. The hike is a picturesque descent of approximately 10 km (6.2 miles) and will take about 3 hours. This is a wide trail that passes through a heavily vegetated area with plenty of tree cover. This is an incredibly beautiful part of the trail with plenty of flora and fauna, panoramic views, and abundant wildlife, with native plants and flowers. These forests are generally quite warm and tropical for much of the year, with high temperatures at certain times of the year. We will then arrive at the town of CHALWAY (2,900 meters / 9,514 feet of elevation).

Upon arrival, our private vehicle with a member of the Refugios Salkantay families will be waiting to take us to the family home located in Lucmabamba (The House is surrounded by coffee and fruit plants) where a delicious dinner and family sharing await you. You will have a private room with a private bathroom, with hot water showers.

-  Food (Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner)
-  WiFi
-  Hot shower
-  Cell phone charging
-  Bed
-  Challenging (22 km / 13,67mil)
-  Towels
-  9 hours



- Starting elevation: 3850m / 12631 feet.
- Max elevation: 4660m / 15,288 feet.
- **OVERNIGHT:** Lucmabamba Lodge: 2400 meters / 7874 feet.
- We include an emergency horse if altitude sickness affects you or if you are very tired, during the most difficult section (Soraypampa - Salkantay Pass)
- Weather: Cold



DAY 3

Lucmabamba (Family House) – Llactapata – Hydroelectric Station – Aguas Calientes.

Our local family will wake you up early with a cup of coffee. You will have an interactive cultural experience with the locals, including a meeting with the coffee growers who cultivate their organic coffee, still using traditional methods to roast and grind the coffee beans. Then we will continue through the plantains, granadilla, cassava, and avocado plantations.

A delicious breakfast will be waiting for you and after breakfast, we will continue to walk very early, along an original Inca trail. After a 2 to 3 hour climb with spectacular views over the Santa Teresa valley, you will reach the Llactapata pass.

We will then begin to descend for about 10 minutes, arriving very quickly at the Llactapata Inca ruins, the first archaeological site, located right in front of Machu Picchu. During this part of the descent, we will have a continuous view of Machu Picchu as well as Huayna Picchu and Machu Picchu Mountain. We will continue downhill for about 2 hours until we reach the Hydroelectric Station where a delicious lunch awaits you.

From this point, you can walk along the train tracks for approximately 2 hours to the town of Aguas Calientes. Don't worry about your large backpacks, they will be waiting for you at the hotel.

- 🍴 Food (Breakfast - Lunch)
- 📶 WiFi
- 🚿 Hot shower
- 🔌 Cell phone charging
- 🛏️ Bed
- 🧑‍🚶 Challenging (25 km / 15,53mil)
- 🧺 Towels
- 🕒 9 hours



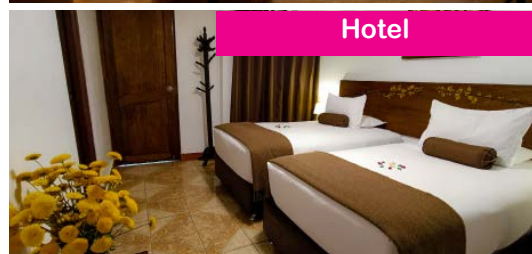
- Starting Elevation – 2450 m / 8038 feet
- Aguas Calientes Elevation – 2000 m / 6561 feet
- This is where our services finish and you say “Goodbye” to “Salkantay Refuges!”



Lucmabamba



Hotel Aguas Calientes




Hotel

DAY 4

Aguas Calientes - Machu Picchu - Ollantaytambo - Cusco

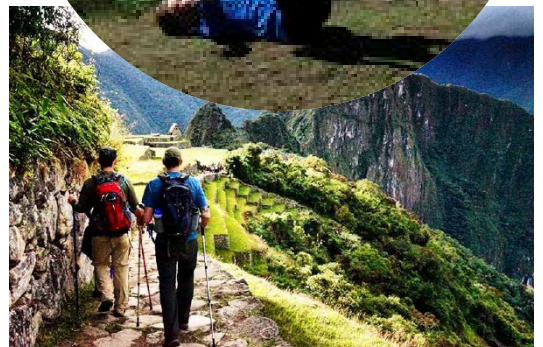
After a delicious breakfast, You'll need to arrive at Machu Picchu early, which means waking up early! Machu Picchu opens at 6 am until 5 p.m. You can either hike up to Machu Picchu from Aguas Calientes, which is a 2-hour hike, or take the shuttle bus to the archaeological site for \$12 USD (one way) which takes 30 minutes. If you'd like to hire the services of an official guide, there are many at the entrance to Machu Picchu who form groups for a guided tour. The cost usually ranges from 20 soles per person for a group tour to around 200 soles for a private tour. A guided tour usually lasts for 3 hours through this mystical site. A regular entrance ticket will only allow you to visit for approximately 2 to 3 hours. Upon entering Machu Picchu, you'll head to the main viewpoint. Here, you can take your idyllic Machu Picchu postcard photos. You'll visit the most important sites and temples within the archaeological site.

Tickets for Machu Picchu Mountain or Wayna Picchu Mountain are subject to availability. Consult your Refugios Salkantay specialist for more details when making your reservation. These permits must be reserved in advance and cost \$70 USD per person.

 Food (Breakfast)

 Easy

 Store Luggage at Hotel



- The citadel of Machu Picchu has many steps and uphill climbs.
- Approximately 4 hours.
- Machu Picchu: Easy to moderate.





INCLUSION

○ Included in the package ○

1. Hotel Pick up in Cusco.
2. Private transport (Cusco - Mollepata / Mollepata - Challacancha.)
3. Hot shower at all lodges.
4. Fresh towels and soap are provided at all lodges.
5. Rooms in private cabins: Soraypampa, Lucmabamba, Aguas Calientes.
6. We have double rooms, twin rooms, and triple rooms.
7. Mules and horsemen to carry your personal items for 100% of the route. (Until leaving them at their hotel in Aguas Calientes.)
8. First Aid kit in all lodges.
9. All meals are included during the hike until the last day when we reach Hydroelectric.
10. Cooking classes and enjoy one of the most traditional dishes of the Andes.(New 2024)
11. NO sleeping bags are needed, you will sleep in a real bed and be super warm.
12. We also provide a natural walking stick for the hike at no extra cost- one stick per person.
13. Water is provided.
14. WiFi Free.
15. All our Refugios have renewable energy to charge their cell phone.
16. Coffee tour.
17. Includes an emergency horse in the most difficult stretch if you are tired or affected by altitude sickness (Soraypampa - Salkantay Pass).

○ Not included in the package ○

1. First breakfast in Mollepata
2. Entrance to the Salkantay Trail (S/.20 per person)
3. Entrance ticket to Machu Picchu.
4. Return from Aguas Calientes to Cusco.
5. Bus from Aguas Calientes to Machu Picchu



Salkantay Trek to Machu Picchu

Welcome to our wonderful world!

Explore The Salkantay Trek With Our Family-Run Eco-Lodges

AMPHITRYON

Our families

Refugios Soray - DAY 1



Refugios Lucmabamba - DAY 2



Hotel Aguas Calientes - DAY 3



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