



Salkantay Trek to Machu Picchu

Travellers'
Choice™



Salkantay Trek Independent

Short Salkantay Trek 4 Days

DAY 1

CUSCO - CHALLACANCHA- SORAYPAMPA (HUMANTAY LAKE)

We will pick you up from your hotel between 5 am and 5:30 am in our private car, which will take you to the community of Mollepatá, approximately 2.5 hrs traveling time. In Mollepatá, my family will be waiting for you in the restaurant “La Casona”, where you will meet the founder of “Refugios Salkantay”- Mercedes Sotelo and where you will have the option to have some breakfast if your hotel didn't provide you breakfast in Cusco. (Optional).

Your large backpack will be left with our driver who will take it to the lodge in Soraypampa. You only need to take what you need for the 2-hour hike.

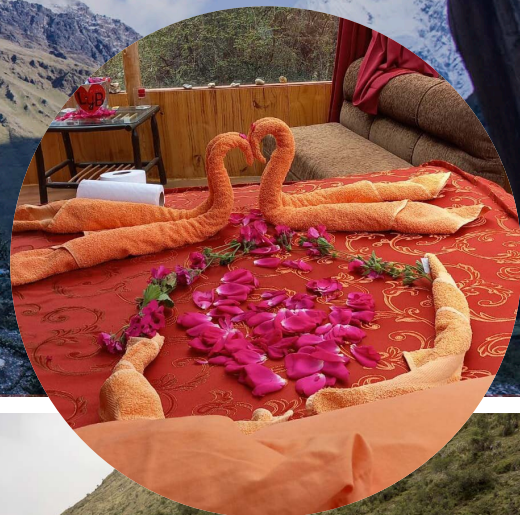
Start of the hike:

A member of the Refugios Salkantay family will show you the trailhead from Challacancha to Soraypampa (7 km - 4,35 miles.)

The first section of the hike is ascending a zigzag trail for approximately 30 minutes until we reach a water canal. This water channel will follow our trail to Soraypampa. This is a route usually only hiked by trekkers in the area. Continue along the canal to Soraypampa. The first house you see belongs to Refugios Salkantay, which can be found next to the trail. So close, you can reach out and touch it! Here you will be treated to a coca tea and shown to your rooms. You will have a private room with a private bathroom and hot shower and we also provide you with fresh towels. Once you have settled in, you will have the opportunity to try some local cuisine.

We cater to all dietary requirements, allergies, or preferences.

After lunch and a short rest, one of the members of our family will accompany you for approximately half an hour. This will show you the way to the trail you need to follow, heading towards the Humantay Lake (4200 m - 13779 ft). This is a ‘there and back’ hike of 5 km (3.1 miles) and will take approx. 3 hours. This area is one of the most beautiful, natural areas in the region with a turquoise lake, reflecting the surrounding glaciers of the Andes and the sacred Mountain Humantay. You will also be able to see the spectacular snow peaks of the Salkantay glacier, one of the most sacred mountains of Inca mythology, -“The Apu Salkantay”. This trek to the lake is a great way to acclimatize for the rest of the hike. When you return to our lodge, there will be an aperitif and a delicious dinner waiting for you.



- Total walking distance: 12km / 7.45 miles.
- 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) temperature at the lodge: 0 - 5°C.
- Difficulty level: Moderate
- Approximately 5 hours



Refugios Salkantay



Saray Lodge



Humantay Lake

DAY 2

SORAYPAMPA - SALKANTAY PASS - LUCMABAMBA (FAMILY HOME).

5:00 am will be your wake-up call and we will bring you coca tea. At 5:30 am a delicious breakfast will be waiting for you in our dining room.

(Your main backpacks will be transported by mules with a family member, for all of the treks). At 6:00 am we will start our day's hike by climbing 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 top of the pass, we will be able to gather our breath and take in the impressive views of the surrounding valleys and the imposing snow peaks that surround us, of the Salkantay, Humantay, and Tucarhuay mountains. Salkantay Mountain is the 2nd highest Mountain in the Cusco region.

If you are tired or suffering from any altitude symptoms, please do not worry, there will always be a muleteer close by who carries a first aid kit and has an emergency horse that you can ride if need be.

Once we have reached the highest point on the trek, we will descend for approximately 2 hours until we reach the village of Huayracmachay, all downhill. You will reach a point when the trail becomes flat and you will see a small house selling water and bathroom facilities, continue past this house for 10 minutes more and you will reach a white house on the left-hand side of the trail with a large "Refugios Salkantay" sign. This is where you will have lunch. If it rained while you hiked the pass or if it's cold, we have heating where you can warm up and dry your clothes if necessary.

In the afternoon you will continue hiking with the pack mules, carrying your backpacks and we will reach the high jungle area of Amazonas also known as the Cloud Forest. This is approximately a 10 km, downhill walk. (6.2 miles) and will take about 3 hours. This is a wide trail passing through a highly vegetative area with lots of tree cover. This is an incredibly beautiful part of the trail with lots of flora and fauna and with panoramic views, extensive wildlife, with native plants and flowers. These forests for most of the year are quite warm and tropical with high temperatures at certain times of the year. We will then arrive at the village of CHALWAY (2,900 meters / 9,514 ft. elevation).

On arrival, our private car will be waiting to take us to Lucmabamba, about a 1 hour's drive. Here we will now have dropped in elevation and be in the jungle region and we will head to our lodge for the night and meet our local family. You will have a private room with a private bathroom, with hot and cold showers. There will now be the option of an interactive, cultural experience with the native people of the area, including meeting the coffee farmers, who grow their organic coffee, still using traditional methods to toast and grind the coffee beans. We will then continue through the banana, granadilla, yucca, and avocado plantations. You will then enjoy a traditional dinner before resting for the evening. If for any reason you don't have time to visit the farms (due to time restrictions or tiredness) there will be another opportunity to visit the following morning, before breakfast.



- Total walking distance: 22km /13.67 miles.
- 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)
- Approximately 8-9 hours
- Difficulty: Challenging
- Weather: Cold



DAY 3

LUCMABAMBA (FAMILY HOME) - LLACTAPATA - HYDROELECTRIC PLANT - AGUAS CALIENTES.

Our local family will wake you up bright and early with a cup of hot coffee, in bed.

A delicious breakfast will be waiting for you and after breakfast we will continue to hike very early, along an original Inca trail. After a 2 - 3 hour climb, with spectacular views over the Santa Teresa valley, you will arrive at the Llactapata pass. At the top of the pass we will see a small house belonging to the Sra. Susana, who will provide us with a refreshing drink, before you continue on your way. Here you can also ask any questions you may have about the rest of your journey to Machu Picchu or Santa Teresa.

We will then start to descend, arriving very quickly to the Inca ruins of llactapata, the first archaeological site, situated just in front of Machu Picchu. On this part of the descent we will have a continuous view of Machu Picchu as well as Huayna Picchu and the Machu Picchu mountain. We will continue downhill for about 2 hours until we reach the Hydroelectric train station where we will have lunch. One of the most impressive sights in the area is the natural waterfall which powers the electricity for the whole Cusco region! Here we will cross the river on an impressive bridge.

Upon arrival at the hydroelectric station, you will have lunch at a local restaurant and your backpacks will also be waiting for you.

From this point you can walk along the train lines, for approximately 2 hours, to the town of Aguas Calientes. This is a popular route and almost impossible to get lost, if you follow the tracks.

Your Hotel in Aguas Calientes is included and your breakfast the next day.



- Walking Distance - 18 km / 11.2 miles
- Starting Elevation - 2450 m / 8038 feet
- Aguas Calientes Elevation - 2000 m / 6561 feet
- Difficulty: Moderate to Challenging
- *This is where our services finish and you say "adiós" to "Refugios Salkantay!"



DAY 4

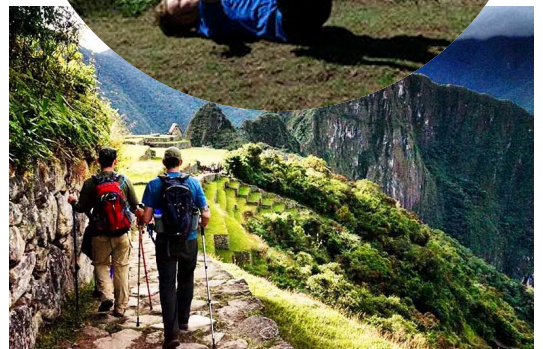
AGUAS CALIENTES – MACHU PICCHU – OLLANTAYTAMBO – CUSCO

You will need to arrive early at Machu Picchu which means waking up early! Machu Picchu opens at 6 a.m. until 5p.m. You can choose to hike up to Machu Picchu from Aguas Calientes which is a hike of about 2 hours. OR you can take the shuttle bus up to the archaeological site for \$12 USD (one way) which takes 30 minutes.

If you wish 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 is usually around s/.20 soles per person for a group tour and around s/.150 soles for a private tour. A guided tour usually lasts 2 hours for this mystical site. A regular entrance ticket will only allow you to visit for about 2 -3 hours. When you enter Machu Picchu you will head to the principal viewpoint. Here you may take your idyllic, postcard photos of Machu Picchu. After seeing the sunrise (weather permitting), you will start your guided tour which will take about 2.5 hours. You will visit the most important sites and temples inside the archaeological site. At the end of the tour, you will have some time to take photos, or if you have reserved the permit to climb Huayna Picchu/Machu Picchu mountain, to climb your respective mountain. These permits need to be reserved ahead of time and cost \$35 USD per person). If you haven't reserved a climb, you can hike to the Sun Gate (1.5 hours approximately) or even to the Inca Bridge (45mins).

Please note: Huayna Picchu tickets are subject to availability. Please ask your Refugios Salkantay specialist for details upon booking.

Machu Picchu Mountain may be hiked as well, instead of Huayna Picchu Mountain. This hike is more challenging and takes four hours minimum, round-trip (at an extra cost of USD \$70 per person).



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





INCLUSION

○ Included in the package ○

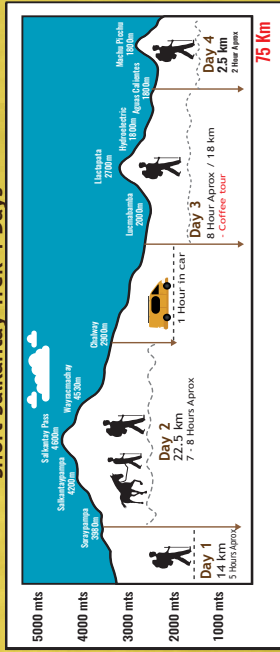
1. Hotel Pick up in Cusco.
2. Private transport (Cusco – Mollepata / Mollepata – Challacancha.)(Chalway - Lucmabamba)
3. Hot shower at all lodges.
4. Fresh towels are provided at all lodges.
5. Rooms in private cabins: Soraypampa, Lucmabamba, Aguas Calientes. We have double rooms, twin rooms, and triple rooms.
6. Includes mules and horsemen to carry your personal items for the whole trekking route until we reach Hydroelectric.
7. First Aid kit in all lodges.
8. All meals are included during the hike until the last day when we reach Hydroelectric.
9. Sleeping bags are NOT required as we provide plenty of blankets at each lodge.
10. We also provide a natural walking stick for the hike at no extra cost- one stick per person.
11. All drinking water is provided. (Bottled).
12. WiFi Free
13. We have renewable energy to charge your cell phones.
14. Coffee tour

○ Not included in the package ○

1. First breakfast in Mollepata
2. Entrance fee to Salkantay Trail (S/20 per person)
3. Machu Picchu entrance ticket. (www.machupicchu.gob.pe)
4. Return train: (Machu Picchu - Ollanta) www.perurail.com / www.incarail.com
5. Return to Cusco (Ollanta - Cusco) (There are “collectivos” for s/15.00 soles per person /Private transport: S/100 for 4 people, as you leave the train station).
6. No services inside Machu Picchu
7. Return shuttle bus Bus from Aguas calientes - Machupicchu - return



Short Salkantay Trek 4 Days



SALKANTAY TREK TO MACHU PICCHU

Join Us at Refugios Salkantay to The World Wonder 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



Refugios Lucmabamba



Refugios Llactapata



Address

Av. Arcopata 125 - Cusco
Plaza principal Mollepata

Phone

+ 51 974229695
+51 984372258

E-mail

info@refugiossalkantay.com
refugiossalkantay@gmail.com

Web Site

www.refugiossalkantay.com