



Swift Inca Trail to Machu Picchu Day by day description

Day 1 – CUSCO/HUAYLLABAMBA/LLULLUCHAPAMPA (Sunday)

Our vehicle takes you from your hotel to the train station to catch the train, travelling until km88 to begin the hike. You pass Lactapata (or Qentamarca) within a couple of hours walk. A slow ascent up the Huayllabamba Valley, stopping for lunch beside a fresh mountain stream then continuing further to reach the first campsite in the vicinity of the small village of Huayllabamba. Depending on the group's ability the hike may continue to Yumkachimpa or Llulluchapampa (time: 6hrs, Distance: 9kms).

Day 2- LLULLUCHAPAMPA/PHUYUPATAMARCA (Monday)

A spectacular day, the trail ascends at an angle of 30 degrees towards the pass across the hillside of Puna grassland as we leave our campsite and the edge of the treeline behind, bringing us to Warmiwañusca pass (4,200 m.a.s.l/13,776ft.). The trail descends to the Pacaymayo River and then climbs slowly past Runkuraqay ruins. From here over a lower pass to Sayacmarca, the "waiting village". A clear Inca Trail across a causeway on a now dry lake past a cave, we continue our way along a ridge to finally reach Phuyupatamarca (Translated from Quechua= the town at the edge of the clouds) where we camp. (Time:8hrs. Distance 10kms).

Day 3- PHUYUPATAMARCA/MACHU PICCHU (Tuesday)

After continuing along a buttress and passing the Phuyupatamarca ruins, the flagstone trail winds sharply down into the cloud forest to the ruins of Wiñay Wayna located below the ridge on the same water course as the previous site, it has well restored Inca Ruins. After a two hour walk through a cloud forest covered Inca Trail we arrive at Machu Picchu the way the Incas used to come across this magnificent citadel at our feet from Intipunku, the door of the sun. Overnight at a hostel in the village.

Day 4 – MACHU PICCHU / CUSCO (Wednesday)

The whole day can be dedicated to explore these extraordinary Inca remains, including a visit to Wayna Picchu, the mountain overlooking the site. The mid-afternoon train takes us back to Cusco, transfer to your hotel. Lunch and dinner on your own.

Note: Proper acclimatization is required, minimum two days in Cusco or in any other high altitude area.

SERVICES INCLUDED: Transportation by vehicle to the trek, two-man tents including sleeping pads, porters, kitchen crew and commissary gear with all meals included. Bilingual guide on the trek, who will handle the first aid kit and the hotel night on Day 3.

NOT INCLUDED: Alcoholic beverages, extras, tips, taxes, laundry service, additional tours, insurance and airline tickets (where applicable), sleeping bags, hiking boots and other personal gear. Meals in Machu Picchu (dinner day 3), lunch and dinner (day 4).