



## INCA TRAIL

FROM \$1,325 • 5 DAYS / 4 NIGHTS • VIGOROUS TRIP

Knowmad specializes in private and custom travel. Itineraries and physical difficulty are often flexible.

### TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- *Make the pilgrimage to Machu Picchu as the Incas did centuries ago*
- *Visit other coveted ruins like Sayacmarca.*
- *Explore the famed Lost City of Machu Picchu and the Sun Gate*
- *Camp in secluded campsites in pristine settings, not crowded group sites.*
- *Unique hiking itinerary keeps you away from crowds*
- *Enjoy a full-day at Machu Picchu after a good night's rest in a comfortable hotels*
- *Hike in a small group with the Inca Trail's best guides, cook team, and porters*
- *Support a sustainable Inca Trail operation with fair treatment and compensation for porters and support staff*

### DETAILED ITINERARY

#### DAY 1 Inca Trail – Sacred Valley – Llaqtapata

You will be picked up in the morning at your Cusco or Sacred Valley hotel. Geared up and ready to go, today you begin the Inca Trail departing to Piscaycucho. After meeting the porters, hike through a little-visited section of the trail gently winding up the valley until arriving to the Incan ruins at Q'oriwayrachina. Enjoy a picnic lunch surrounded by stones from more than 200 structures. Crossing the Urubamba River at Q'ente arrive to an isolated campsite amidst Inca terracing and nearby the archaeological sites of Wayna Q'ente and Llaqtapata which you can visit at your leisure in the evening. Hike details: 6.8 miles, approximately 5-6 hours

- L, D - camping

## DAY 2 Llaqtapata to Llulluchapampa

Continuing up the Cusichaca Valley you reach the small indigenous community of Huayllabamba. After glimpsing into the life and traditions of the high Andes, make your ascent to a large Pampa below the first pass to where your camp awaits perched for a breathtaking sunset and sunrise views of Mount Huayanay. Ascending this narrow hanging valley with views to the cloudforest, you'll see the very rare Andean Quenua tree. Hike details: 5.6 miles, 6 hours

- B, L, D - camping

## DAY 3 Llulluchapampa to Phuyupatamarca

Begin the most challenging day of hiking with a steady ascent until rewarded with big Andean views from the 13,692-ft Warmiwanusqa Pass. From here head down towards the Pacamayo River and up the other side of the valley to the Runkuraqay atop the second pass. Visit the Sayacmarca ruins after just entering the cloudforest. A beautiful location overlooking the Aobamba Valley, it affords a respite for a liesurely walk through the imposing structures often enshrouded by clouds. Continuing along the ridge you'll see the majestic Mount Salkantay and the silhouette of Mount Pumasillo to the north on the horizon. Arriving at Phuyupatamarca Ruins, the village on the edge of the clouds, continue just beyond to your isolated camp.

Hike details: 8.7 miles, 7-8 hours

- B, L, D - camping

## DAY 4 Phuyupatamarca to Machu Picchu

Begin today's trek after visiting the Phuyupatamarca ruins and winding sharply down into increasingly dense cloudforest to the well-restored ruins of Winay Wayna. Continue on until you cross through Intipunku - the Sun Gate - as the Incas did long ago for your first bird's-eye view to the Lost City of Machu Picchu. Arriving to the Sun Gate in the evening helps avoid crowds and allows you to first see Machu Picchu when it is less visited. From here you will descend to Machu Picchu Pueblo to toast your feat of retracing the ancient Incan pathway to Machu Picchu and your upcoming full-day exploration of the site.

Hike details: 8.1 miles, 8 hours

- B, L, D - El Mapi

## DAY 5 Machu Picchu

Early risers can watch the sunrise from the Machu Picchu citadel. This incredibly vast archeological site - lost to the world until well into the twentieth century - is perched amongst Andean peaks and lush cloud forest making it one of the most breathtaking sights in the world. You'll have the opportunity to get a complete guided tour of the site as you begin to unlock the mystery of the Inca, and will also have plenty of time to explore the ruins on your own. Lunch at the adjacent Sanctuary Lodge means you're able to enjoy the whole day without leaving awe-inspiring Machu Picchu. After descending from the ruins, take the afternoon train to the Sacred Valley continuing by private van to Cusco for the evening. With advance notice it can be arranged so you can make the early morning climb of Huayna Picchu mountain.\*



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

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2014 COSTS \$1,325 per person (minimum 2 travelers).

\$135 single supplement – rates quoted are per person, based on sharing double accommodations. If you request single accommodations you are required to pay the single supplement.

### WHAT YOUR TRIP COST INCLUDES

- Personal pre-departure support
- Expert leadership & guiding
- Accommodations as indicated & based on double-occupancy
- Local excursions as indicated
- Airport transfers as indicated
- Backcountry field arrangements as necessary
- All necessary equipment for adventure excursions
- Ground transportation and support vehicles
- Additional guides and porters as needed
- Entrance fees and permits

### WHAT YOUR TRIP COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

- International and domestic airfare
- Visa, passport, departure/arrival and excess baggage fees
- Trip insurance (we strongly recommend you obtain trip insurance offered by Knowmad Adventures, including trip cancellation insurance)
- Activities listed as optional and/or denoted with asterisk
- Meals not indicated in the itinerary
- Optional tipping to local guides and staff
- Personal items

**TYPE** Fixed Date. Group Departure. Small groups capped at 16 but average 6 people. Fixed date Inca Trail Treks depart every Wednesday and Sunday.

**VIGOROUS TRIP** More active trips that are suitable for most people in good health, these trips may also venture into remote territory and more rugged terrain. Activities include extended hiking, camping, cultural opportunities, history, train ride, shopping, wildlife viewing.

**DEPARTURES** March through November; can be set up to match your dates.

**LENGTH** 5 days – 1 night comfortable hotel, 3 nights camping

**BEGIN | END** Cusco, Peru or the Sacred Valley

## SUMMARY

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Doing the pilgrimage to Machu Picchu may push you, will likely help you know yourself better, and will certainly be an amazing experience. Doing the Inca Trail with Knowmad means you'll do it away from the crowds; that you'll have charismatic, fun guides and meet unforgettable people along the way; and that you'll do it all in style with great equipment and food.

## AIR TRAVEL

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### INTERNATIONAL

Airfare is not included in the land cost of our trips. You may arrange your international airfare independently, or we are happy to offer our feedback and assistance in helping you book it.

### REGIONAL

If booked by Knowmad Adventures, internal airfare for this trip (Lima/Cusco, Cusco/Lima) averages \$440, however this is an approximation and the airfare is subject to change upon booking. If you would like to arrange your own regional flights, please consult us prior so we can verify the departure and arrival times.

## WEATHER & WHEN TO GO

This trip takes place mostly in the Peruvian highlands. Throughout the year the average temperature is in the mid-50s °F (10-12 °C) and does not fluctuate greatly. Evenings are cooler. There are primarily two seasons: wet and dry. December through March sees much more precipitation than other times of the year and is the less visited season. As Peru has three distinct climate zones, if you are interested in combining this trip with a visit to the jungle or the coastal areas please inquire for more weather details.

MONTH	AVG. TEMP. & RAINFALL	MONTH	AVG. TEMP. & RAINFALL
January	55°F 5.9"	July	50°F .1"
February	55°F 4.5"	August	52°F .3"
March	55°F 3.8"	September	54°F .9"
April	55°F 1.5"	October	56°F 1.9"
May	53°F .3"	November	56°F 2.7"
June	50°F .1"	December	56°F 4.3"

Prior to your departure, we provide you with a detailed pre-trip information packet, which includes a recommended pack list, information about the regions you'll be visiting, suggested readings, and up-to-date health information including any recommended vaccinations.

## EXTEND YOUR ADVENTURE



### AMAZON JUNGLE

Just a short flight from Cusco, spotting troops of monkeys, colorful macaws and countless bird species, giant sloths, caimans, and maybe even a jaguar or puma in the Amazon Jungle is a traveler favorite. We have scoured the jungle lodges of Peru and can advise you on which experience fits you best while guaranteeing the best value.

### LAKE TITICACA

Besides being the highest navigable lake in the world, Lake Titicaca is home to diverse traditional cultures including the floating Uros civilization, the Quechua people of Taquile Island, and the Amaru peoples. Come and meet them at the top of the world.

### LIMA

Want to spend more time exploring this great city? Besides getting you a great value for hotels and airport transfers, we can line up a fantastic cooking lesson and culinary city tour, full and half day sightseeing adventures, surrounding ruin visits and much more.



## IS IT FOR ME?

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People often overlook the challenge that the Inca Trail presents. Expect to hike 6-8 hours a day with significant gains in elevation. If you're looking for challenging hiking with flawless logistical planning, this trip is for you.

Knowmad has vast knowledge and operating capacities in Peru; this is a private trip and we are happy to modify excursions, accommodations, and the flow of the itinerary to perfectly suit your travel style and interests.

## REFERENCES

Don't take our word for how great our trips are. We'll be happy to provide you with references of satisfied past travelers.

## WHAT'S NEXT?

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Ready for the trip of a lifetime? Signing up is easy. Call us at 1-877-616-8747 or email [travel@knowmadadventures.com](mailto:travel@knowmadadventures.com) and reserve your spot. Or simply download our registration form from [www.KnowmadAdventures.com/contact](http://www.KnowmadAdventures.com/contact), fill it out, and send it back to us along with your trip deposit.

PLEASE REFER TO REGISTRATION FORM FOR TERMS & CONDITIONS