

“TREK LARES TO MACHUPICCHU”

Group Tour



Cusco – Pumahuanca – Puyoc – Lares- Machupicchu - Cusco

(4 Days / 3 Nights)

An extraordinary tour to Machu Picchu

This trek is a great alternative to the traditional Inca Trail to get to Machu Picchu. It is more remote and less crowded and will leave you with unforgettable impressions of the unspoiled natural beauty of the Andes.

Along the trek you will see amazing landscapes, discover typical Andean villages in which life has only changed little in the last century, visit various archaeological sites and take relaxing baths in the hot spring waters, until you finally reach the Lost City of the Incas and one of the 7 New Wonders of the World: Machu Picchu! Exploring this unique and sacred place is worth all efforts of the journey and a guide will make sure to provide all the information about the place you desire.

During the whole trip you will travel with a guide and a small travel group with likeminded people you can share your experiences with.

DETAILED ITINERARY

DAY 1: CUSCO - PUMAHUANCA - PUYOC

Today we pick you up at 5:00 am to start lares trek to Machupicchu and travel an hour and a half by bus to the village of Pumahuanca (2840m)/(9317ft), located in the Sacred Valley. Where we will start our trek. We'll gently make our way up one of the side valleys covering about 14km in total and climbing about 1150m / 3373ft as we make our way towards the village of Puyoc. On our way up we'll visit the small Inca site of Pumahuanca and learn about the native plants, flowers and birds that inhabit this region.



This particular route for the Lares trek is not commonly done by other companies so we can enjoy the peace and tranquility of our surroundings without any distractions or disturbance. Because so few people visit the area there is a good chance of seeing Viscachas (a rabbitlike Chinchilla) and we may also spot Andean Fox. Our campsite for the night is at Puyoc (4100m / 13451ft); it's quite barren at this altitude and it is not uncommon for it to snow up here during the dry season so gloves and a hat are recommended.

DAY 2: PUYOC - YANACocha - CUNCANI



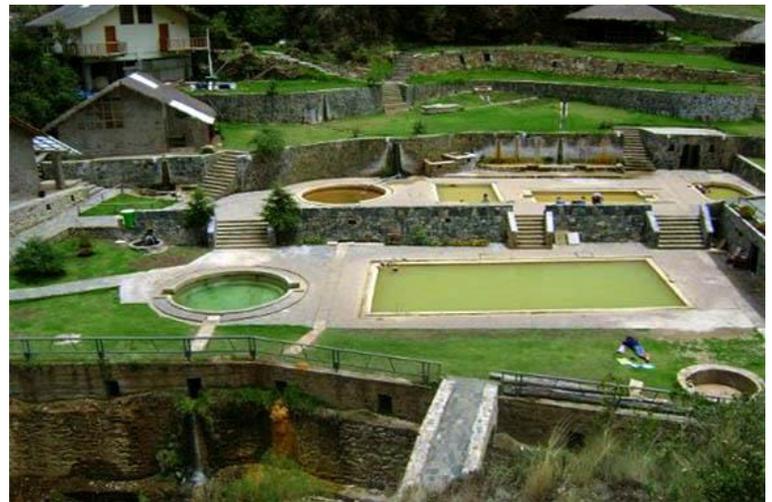
Today is the most spectacular day of the trek and quite a bit easier going than yesterday. From our campsite it's about a 13km walk to the village of Cuncani but most of that is downhill as the pass is only about a 2 hour walk right at the beginning.

As we make our way to Cuncani we'll pass by snowcapped peaks high above us, serene mountain lakes (including Yanacocha - Black Water) and get to meet the local people dressed in their traditional bright red clothing. This side of

the pass is completely different culturally to the other side and as we wind our way down from the pass your guide will teach you about the people and their way of life. You'll also get to learn a few Qhechua phrases so that you can interact with the local people. enough to spot Condors soaring over the valley below

DAY 3: CUNCANI - LARES

The focus of today is to meet the local people. Waking up early we'll be taken by our guide to one of the houses where we'll get to meet a local family. The people are incredibly welcoming and are just as eager to learn about you as you are of them - hopefully by now you'll have mastered a few phrases and be able to ask a few questions (much to everyone's delight and amusement). After the visit you'll have the opportunity to give any gifts you've brought for the local people and also to buy some of the locally made alpaca products that the region is famed for.



Leaving Cuncani it's just a short distance (6km) until we reach the hot springs of Lares. Along the way we'll pass through several small communities and see the people growing a variety of foods such as Quinoa and Tarwi, we'll also probably spot flocks of Andean parrots flying overhead (they're easy to spot thanks to their piercing calls). After a relaxing dip in the hot springs we'll be picked up by our bus and driven back to the Sacred Valley from where we'll catch our train to Machu Picchu.

DAY 4: MACHU PICCHU!



Waking up early we'll take the first bus back up to Machu Picchu to enter the site as it opens. We'll have a 2 hour guided tour of the site during which you'll learn about the Incas and visit all the most important areas of the citadel. After your tour you'll have free time to explore the site by yourself and if you have permits to climb either Huayna Picchu or Machu Picchu Mountain. In the afternoon you will take the train back to Ollantaytambo from where you will carry on by bus back to Cusco.

End of our service

MORE INFORMATION

TRIP CONSIDERATIONS

Walking: The walking effort is moderate to Challenger

Climate: Rather variable. Sunny, though on other days it can be cool and overcast. At high altitudes conditions range from cool to decidedly cold in the early morning.

WHAT YOU NEED TO BRING

- Original passport (and *International Student card (ISIC) if applicable)
- Sleeping bag (can be hired from us)
- Walking boots (with ankle protectors)
- Waterproof jacket/rain poncho.
- Warm jacket, hat and gloves
- T-shirts
- Shorts Comfortable trousers
- Sun protection cream
- Insect repellent
- Toiletries
- Personal medication
- Camera and film

- Torch with spare batteries
- Any other optional items to take:
- Walking poles (with rubber tip, can also be hired from us)
- Plasters and bandages

Extra contribution suggested: money for tipping horseman, cook and guide and for any emergency