



The Leader for Independent Travel

**HIGHLAND TREKKING ABOVE THE SACRED VALLEY
4 Days/3 Nights Departs on Wednesdays from Cuzco
April – September**

(May add a Machu Picchu overnight extension.)

North of Cuzco, on the slopes of Antapampa, lies the terraced complex of Zurite (near the the village of Huarcoondo). From here the trail winds slowly onto a high plateau with spectacular views. From here you can see Mt. Salkantay and Veronica, the Ancascocha Pass, and the community of Camicancha. The trail ends at Ollantaytambo with an optional extension to visit the citadel of Machu Picchu or return to Cuzco.

Package includes:

- Transfers from Cuzco
- All meals while camping
- Bilingual guides
- Tents (2 person) are provided

For the Machu Picchu Overnight Extension, the package will include:

- All transfers (roundtrip train from Ollantaytambo to Aguas Calientes
- Bus tickets from Aguas Calientes to Machu Picchu
- Bus transfer from Ollantaytambo to Cuzco hotel)
- One night hotel with breakfast
- Entrance to Machu Picchu and guided tour
- Lunch in Aguas Calientes

Itinerary

WEDNESDAY

Cuzco/Parpishu/Chilipahua: Depart Cuzco by bus passing through Huarcoondo, and continuing up the narrow Pachar Valley towards the Urubamba River valley. At 10,168 feet we will arrive at a footbridge at Parpishu, the starting point of our trek. From here the trail starts ascending slowly, leaving the valley behind us. The trail continues to the pass of Watuq'asa (12,792 ft.) where we will have lunch. After lunch the trail will take us to an Incan wall and Tambo known as Qosqoq'awarina (from here we can see Cuzco) that surrounds the pass. From this point there are spectacular views of Mt. Pumahuanca, Chicon and Mt. Veronica. The trail descends into a small valley with a stream called Anapahua running through it. Continue to the small community of Chilipahua where we will camp. (L/D)

THURSDAY

Chilipahua/Ancascocha: After breakfast we will continue on the trail, slowly ascending past Incaraqay, a small community of shepherders. From here a one- hour hike will take us over a pass at Pampaq'asa (13,776 ft.) down into the gully of the Silque River to the small village of Ancascocha (12,792 ft.). At this point we have a full view of Mt. Huayanay and the Silque valley. Our campsite for the night is beside a lovely lake. (B/L/D)

FRIDAY

Ancascocha/Camicancha: Today our trek takes us downhill into a narrow valley full of "Huakanki" , the famous large red Masdevalia orchids. The trail descends in a series of switchbacks to a rushing river below. After crossing several small bridges, we'll reach the community of Camicancha. Here we will camp in a volcanic rock area, with a spectacular view of snow-capped "Mt. Veronica", and the "Pakaritampu" Pyramid, on the other side of the Urubamba River. (B/L/D)

SATURDAY

Camicancha-Ollantaytambo/Cuzco or Machu Picchu: After breakfast, we will hike to the village of Chillca, near Ollantaytambo, where we will board a bus to return to Cuzco. An extension to Machu Picchu is available upon request.

Extension to Machu Picchu: From Ollantaytambo, connect to an afternoon train to the town of Aguas Calientes, below the citadel of Machu Picchu. Overnight at selected hotel in Aguas Calientes. (B)

SUNDAY

Machu Picchu/Cuzco: After breakfast, guided visit of Machu Picchu. Enjoy the morning at leisure to explore the ruins. Return to Aguas Calientes for lunch at a local restaurant. Return to Machu Picchu or explore the town until time to board the late afternoon train back to Ollantaytambo Train Station. Continue by bus to Cuzco (approximately 1 ½ hours), and transfer to your hotel.