



FROM 2,200 POINTS

**14 Nights in Cusco on this Peruvian
Adventure.
Optional extra
(Luxury Belmont Train excursion)**

Your Resorts
The Wayqey Hotel Cusco

Your Transportation
Belmont Hiram Bingham train
(Optional)

Your Experience
The Historic Machu Pichu Sanctuary



Country: Peru

Capital: Lima

Currency: Nuevo Sol

Language: Spanish, Quechua, Aymara



PERU

Peru is a country in South America that's home to a section of Amazon rainforest and Machu Picchu, an ancient Incan city high in the Andes mountains. The region around Machu Picchu, including the Sacred Valley, Inca Trail and colonial city of Cusco, is rich in archaeological sites. On Peru's arid Pacific coast is Lima, the capital, with a preserved colonial center and important collections of pre-Columbian art.

Peruvian territory was home to several ancient cultures. Ranging from the Norte Chico civilization starting in 3500 BCE, the oldest civilization in the Americas and one of the five cradles of civilization, to the Inca Empire.

PERU

Lima, the capital of Peru, lies on the country's arid Pacific coast. Though its colonial center is preserved, it's a bustling metropolis and one of South America's largest cities. It's home to the Museo Larco collection of pre-Columbian art and the Museo de la Nación, tracing the history of Peru's ancient civilizations. The Plaza de Armas and the 16th-century cathedral are the heart of old Lima Centro.



The Wayqey Hotel Cusco

Do you want to see Cusco, but not be bothered by all the thousands of fellow travelers enjoying the magic of Machu Picchu? Find a space of modern serenity at Wayqey Hotel to decompress before embarking on your grand adventure to the ancient Inca citadel. With close to 350,000 residents in Cusco and thousands of tourists each day, this bustling city is never short of livelihood. The night life, the 'Party' scene is ready and eager to go every 7 nights a week.

Located in the Cusco Region, 1.5 km from the central bus station and a 5-minute drive from the airport and the city centre. Wayqey Hotel boasts a seventh-floor terrace and panoramic views of the city. Free Wi-Fi access is available.

Rooms and Suites here are fitted with a flat-screen TV. Certain units have a seating area. Each room includes a private bathroom fitted with a bath or shower. Extras include free toiletries and a hair dryer. Hotel Wayqey features free Wi-Fi throughout the property.

At Wayqey Hotel guests will find a 24-hour front desk and an on-site bar. The hotel is ideally situated for visits to popular sites such as Coricancha which is 2.4 km away. Sacsayhuaman and most of the City Circuit sites are a 10-minute drive away, while Santo Domingo Church is 2.7 km from the property.





The Wayqey Hotel Cusco

View to the city: 1 king-size bed

1 sofa bed for 2 people

Internet WI-FI Wireless and cable free of charge.

2 flat screen TV, Cable Channels. Soundproofing.

Telephone Safe with capacity for laptop iPod stand

Clock radio with USB connection and Bluetooth

Heating Wooden floor / parquet Mattresses with Nano technology

Hypoallergenic pillows and lingerie / feather

Coat rack Hair dryer Free toiletries / toiletries

Minibar Glasses and/or utensils. Microwave oven

kettle sofa bed Alarm Service Towels and/or accessories Airport shuttle service

This really is an ideal launch pad close to everything you want to see in the area.



The Incredibly Amazing Machu Picchu



The most important monument inside the HSM-NAPM is the Ilaqta or Inka City of Machu Picchu, which was planned and built around 1450 CE during the reign of Inka Pachakuti. Its construction demanded the participation of specialists in architecture, engineering, astronomy, and massive amounts of labor. More than 50% of the work required for its erection was focused on site preparation, the foundation and the drainage system. Its construction responds to the need of the Inka State to have a religious, political and administrative center within a sacred space that is the link between the Andes and the Amazon.

Since the 1930's, the Peruvian government has been promoting the research, conservation, and enhancement of the Historic Sanctuary and the Ilaqta of Machupicchu, which represents a masterpiece of art, architecture, and engineering in perfect harmony with nature and is the most important legacy the Inka civilization left to mankind.

The Ilaqta of Machupicchu was abandoned during the second half of the sixteenth century; however, it was never lost as it was occasionally visited and inhabited by local farmers. Some colonial documents refer to the Inka Ilaqta of Machupicchu as the "Settlement of the Incas" or the "Old Village of the Inga Named Guaynapicchu". In 1874, the names "Machu Picchu" and "Huaina Picchu" appear for the first time in a cartographic document, which was prepared by engineer Herman Göhring. In 1911, Professor Hiram Bingham visited the Ilaqta and was impressed with its beauty and majesty. The following year he returned with a multidisciplinary team of professionals who conducted excavations and research in the area.

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We all know it now as Machu Picchu and this is thanks to Hiram Bingham, the American explorer that in his 1911 expedition came across the Inca site and initiated its scientific study that made it world famous. He was not looking for it, however. Instead, he wanted to find Vilcabamba, the last Inca village used as a refuge from the Spanish conquest in 1572. As he was traveling through the Urubamba Valley, Hiram Bingham asked locals if they knew of any old ruins nearby. It is an indigenous farmer, Melchor Arteaga, that then directed him towards Machu Picchu in his native language. But in fact, what Machu Picchu seems to mean in this ancient language is "old mountain" or "old peak", and it refers to the mountain just in front of the citadel.

The mountain just behind the citadel that you can clearly see in all the classic postcard photos is called Huayna Picchu, which means young mountain, and you can climb to the top of it in about 45 minutes with stunning views and an Inca temple along the way.

The Incredibly Amazing Machu Picchu ctd...



The Incas had knowledge of incredibly advanced construction and stonework techniques, and when you visit Machu Picchu, you will be able to see just how impressive and organic their constructions were. It is almost like they were painting, but with rocks, as they followed the natural shapes and curves of the mountains and landscapes (rather than cutting through as we would nowadays).

One of the techniques they used in the most sacred, elite structures (Inca Imperial constructions) is known as ashlar. The Incas perfected this by cutting pieces from the large white granite rocks in certain areas at Machu Picchu (some call it the quarry) and polished and carved the stones in the right shape to fit together exactly and very tightly without the use of mortar or clay (you could not even fit a blade or thin piece of paper in between). Keep in mind they had no modern tools for cutting and moving the stones. Some weigh over 55 tons!

They often also built constructions around impressive rocks, again an example of organic construction. Most of the staircases were carved from one slab of stone! This technique makes the constructions much more earthquake resistant than for example most modern buildings today, and earthquakes do happen often in Peru. It allows for the stones of the dry-stone walls to move slightly and resettle without any walls collapsing. Also, the trapezoidal design of the doors and windows help make it a much more solid, long-lasting construction. In fact, right underneath where Machu Picchu was built run several fractures or tectonic fault lines, and amazingly, there's evidence that the Incas knew this and expertly avoided building right on top of these small fissures.

If you are lucky, you will be able to spot the spectacled bear (Andean bear or *Tremarctos Ornatus*) at Machu Picchu or along the Inca Trail. It is the only bear species that can be found in South America and is considered vulnerable by the IUCN (with an estimated population of between only 2,500-10,000), but they have on very rare occasions been spotted roaming freely close by the citadel. Typically, this is around 4pm or later, as it is quieter near closing time, and they stay only a few minutes before they return deeper into the cloud forest. Their especially love bromeliads as part of their diet, which can be found plenty in this area.

Animals that people do expect to see are llamas, and you can indeed find plenty of them wandering around Machu Picchu. Though these are now domesticated animals that you would not normally find here (in the wild they prefer altitudes above 13,000 feet / 4,000 m). They are being kept here to entertain the tourists – and they are quite used to them so you can take cool selfies with the llamas (just be aware that if annoyed the worst thing they can do is spit). Llamas were also very important to the Incas, and they would have lived there as their domesticated animals back in their day too. Some of the constructions are said to be shaped like a llama, and llama bones were found at the sacrificial temples inside.

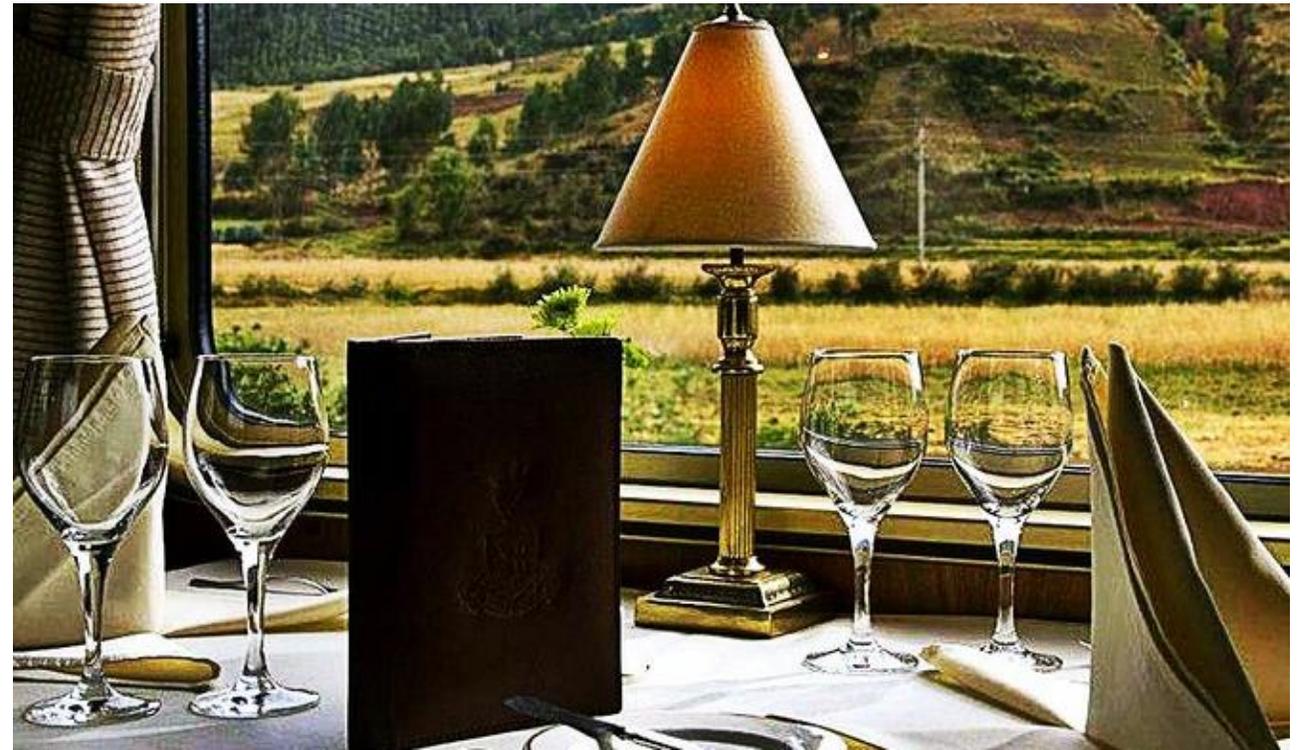
Incredibly, the Incas had plenty of knowledge about the position of the sun, the moon, and the stars. We can see evidence of that at Machu Picchu where constructions align exactly to these positions at important times of the year.

The Hiram Bingham Train



Start your experience off with a welcome cocktail. Once on board, the maître will invite you to a gourmet lunch. Return trip includes a fine dining experience at dinner. In both cases, you can accompany your meals with beverages (non-premium) and a fine wine selection. Fare includes a bus ticket from the station to Machu Picchu and entry to the citadel including tour guide for no more than 14 people (in English or Spanish). Afternoon tea at Belmond Sanctuary Lodge, is also inclusive.

For those who really wish to indulge and splash out then a trip on the exclusive Belmond Hiram Bingham train works. Relax in style and enjoy the elegant dining car, the bar car, and the observatory, where you can take in the unmatched scenery in the open air whilst sipping on a traditional Peruvian cocktail and listening to live local music with performances by local musicians with the beat of the Peruvian cajon and tambourines. Let traditional Peruvian and international music set the tone for an unforgettable ride in this wooden panel 1920s-inspired locomotive.





Head to Machu Picchu in style while aboard the luxurious Belmond Hiram Bingham Train. This 1920s Pullman-inspired train winds its way through the Andes giving you unparalleled views of the passing scenery.

from \$1,100 USD

What's included

Cusco City Hotel pick up and transfer to train station Welcome drink at the station Belmond Hiram Bingham travel bag Welcome appetizers, lunch and dinner All non-alcoholic beverages and hot drinks. White and red wine (Argentine and Chilean) sparkling wine (Peruvian, Tacama) and Cusqueña beer. Pisco Sours the entire trip Guided tour of Machu Picchu Professional guide VIP Lounge at Machu Picchu Station Afternoon tea at the Belmond Sanctuary Lodge Live onboard entertainment : Live band plays typical local and international music, in the Observatory Car* on the outbound trip and in the Bar Car on the return trip (the Observation Car is open on the outbound trip. On the return trip the Observation balcony is closed for operational reasons). (*) From May 25th to June 18th, the Belmond Hiram Bingham train service will operate without the Observation Car due to maintenance works. Train station pick up and transfer to your hotel in Cusco City Breakfast Lunch Dinner Snacks Bottled water Coffee and/or Tea Alcoholic Beverages

