Short Inca Trail 2 days

Duration: 2 days



About this trip

The Short Inca Trail concentrates some of the most iconic elements of the historic route to Machu Picchu into two days: Inca trails, archaeological sites, cloud forest, and the arrival at the llaqta via Inti Punku. Unlike the **4-day Classic Inca Trail**, this program does not require overnight camping and includes a night in a hotel in **Aguas Calientes**.

Most of the physical exertion takes place on the first day, with several hours of hiking to Wiñay Wayna and then on to **Inti Punku**. From the **Sun Gate**, you'll get your first view of Machu Picchu before descending to Aguas Calientes. On the second day, you'll return to the archaeological site for a guided tour following the designated route and schedule under current regulations.

Day 1: Short Inca Trail: Cusco – Wiñaywa

We will be passing by the hotel at approximately 5:00 a.m. towards the Poroy or Ollantaytambo train station, depending on space availability on the train, which will take us to Km 104 where we will begin our walk in a subtropical jungle landscape.

We will visit the archaeological group of **Chachabamba** (2150 m.a.n.m) and in approximately 3 hours of walking we will reach **Wiñaywayna**, an impressive complex made up of an agricultural center with numerous terraces, a religious sector and an urban sector, then we will climb to Intipunku, "**Gate of the Sun**", during the 1-hour walking route along a flat stone road and a panoramic view of the mountains, a point where we can enjoy the first view of the majestic "Machupicchu" and Inti Punku.

Soon we will arrive at "the Inca citadel of Machu Picchu" and then we will take the bus to get to Aguas Calientes to spend the night.

That day we will have the opportunity to take lots of photos from the upper part, where **the classic photo is located.**

Duration of the walk is approximately 6 to 7 hours, accommodation will be overnight in previously selected accommodation, taking advantage of the rest of the day to enjoy the Hot Springs in the town of Águas Calientes.

IMPORTANT ADVICE

After a hearty breakfast and the recommended coca tea, we suggest that you just take a light backpack (25L) to trek the first day. (Include money, light clothing, travel documents, camera, repellent, sunhat, sunscreen and personal hygiene products). Your trip will be more comfortable for doing so. The rest of your baggage can remain at your Cusco hotel as you will be returning there tomorrow.

Overnight: Hotel in Aguas Calientes

Meals included: Box lunch, dinner

Schedule

- 03:50 – Transfer from Sueños del Inka Hotel to the bus station in Cusco.
- 04:20 – Bus departure from Cusco to Ollantaytambo.
- 06:10 – Check-in at Ollantaytambo train station.
- 06:40 – Departure on *INCA RAIL VOYAGER* train.
- 08:00 – Arrival at Km 104.
- 12:00 – Arrival at Wiñayhuayna.
- 15:00 – Arrival at Intipunku (Sun Gate).
- 16:30 – Arrival at Machu Picchu.
- Overnight: Hostal Machupicchu Inn.

Day 2: Aguas Calientes - Machu Picchu

In the morning, according to the scheduled time, our guide will pick you up at your hotel to go to the bus station where you will climb 400m along a winding path for 20min to reach the incredible wonder of the world "**The Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu**", also known as "The Lost City of the Incas". Upon arriving at the Machu Picchu citadel with our guide, we will pass through the entrance and begin the tour of the entire citadel.

For around 1h30m we will visit the main places in Machu Picchu.

We will return to the town of Aguas Calientes in the afternoon, where you will have free time to enjoy lunch in one of the many restaurants **(lunch not included).** After lunch, we will take the train back to Ollantaytambo (depending on train departure time availability). The return will follow the same route as the outbound one. When you arrive in Ollantaytambo, our train representative will be waiting to take you to the bus to finally go to your hotel in Cusco.

IMPORTANT ADVICE

Before you go up to Machu Picchu, we recommend that you leave your light backpack at the hotel in Aguas Calientes and only take water, (please remember that Machu Picchu is a plastic free zone so plastic water bottles will be confiscated on entry). Passport, cash, entrance ticket, sunhat sunscreen and insect repellent. When you head back down to Aguas calientes, you can collect your overnight bag from the hotel. If time allows, we recommend a visit to the Chávez Ballón Museum, the museum of Machu Picchu. There is a free entrance after midday and you simply need to show your passport. We should also take into account that there is usually a queue for the shuttle bus, to and from Machu Picchu. There is also usually a queue for the train back to Ollantaytambo also, so we will need to allow plenty of time in each case. Your guide will be there to orientate you in the best possible manner.

Overnight: Hotel in Cusco (own expense)

Meals: Breakfast

Schedule

- 07:00 – Guided tour of Circuit 1 – Designed Royalty Route (approx. duration: 2.5 hours).
- 11:00 – Return to Aguas Calientes.
- 14:00 – Check-in at Aguas Calientes train station.
- 14:30 – Departure on *INCA RAIL VOYAGER BIMODAL* train.
- 15:50 – Arrival at Ollantaytambo station.
- 16:20 – Bus transfer to Cusco.
- 18:30 – Arrival in Cusco and transfer to the hotel.

What's included

- ✓ Pre-Trek Briefing
- ✓ **Train Station Transfers:** Round-trip transfers between your hotel and Ollantaytambo train station.
- ✓ Outbound Train Ticket
- ✓ **Inca Trail Permit:** Entrance fee for the Short Inca Trail.
- ✓ **Professional Guide:** English- and Spanish-speaking guide.
- ✓ **Trek Meals:** 1 light boxed lunch and dinner in Aguas Calientes.
- ✓ **Day 1 Bus Ticket:** Transportation from Machu Picchu to Aguas Calientes after the hike.
- ✓ **Day 2 Bus Tickets:** Round-trip transportation between Aguas Calientes and Machu Picchu.

- ✓ **Machu Picchu Visit:** Entrance ticket and a 1.5-hour guided tour.
- ✓ **Return Train Ticket**
- ✓ **Safety Equipment**
- ✓ **1 Hotel Night:** Machupicchu Inn, Alegrías Inn, or similar in Aguas Calientes, with breakfast.
- ✓ **24-Hour Assistance:** Agency support throughout your trip.

What's not included

- ✗ **Drinks :** Drinks except those mentioned in the itinerary
- ✗ **Meals :** Meals except those mentioned in the itinerary
- ✗ **Snacks :** Snacks except those mentioned in the itinerary
- ✗ **Phone calls**
- ✗ **Extra spending money**
- ✗ **Tips/gratuities**
- ✗ **Travel insurance**
- ✗ **Walking sticks:** Walking sticks add USD 10.00 per each one

Packages

Economy — $575

Aguas Calientes – Mapi Seven Machu Picchu Hotel / Sacred Stone Boutique / Terrazas del Inca Bed and Breakfast

See Availability

Package and add-on availability may change at any time. Scan the QR code or click here to see real-time availability and book your trip.



A. chachabamba chachabamba

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