



Peru Inca Trail Private Trekking

The Legendary Route to Machu Picchu

Thank you for checking out our adventures and for downloading this itinerary. Please note that this itinerary may be subject to change depending on the specific departure date. Be sure to check with us before scheduling any flights.

We love talking travel!

Contact us at info@mtsobek.com

or call **800-974-0300**



Feel the difference

with **Mountain Travel Sobek**

Unrivalled Expertise

MT Sobek started it all! Since our first Everest Base Camp trek in 1969, we've been leading award-winning adventures and building authentic connections in far-flung locations around the world. We were named Best Adventure Tour Company in 2022 by USA Today's 10 Best Readers' Choice Awards.

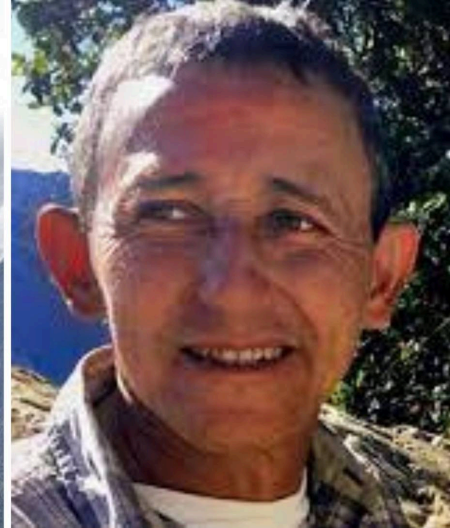
Unique Trip Design

Our adventures are perfectly paced, with incredible attention to detail — the right mix of fun, learning, and challenge that guarantees lifelong memories. Plan nothing, enjoy everything. We take care of all of the logistics so that you can have more time to do what's most important: relax, take in the experience, and enjoy!

Small Groups

We keep our groups intentionally small — usually fewer than 10 people. This allows you a more intimate experience with the people and wildlife you encounter. With a smaller group size, we can take advantage of many unexpected invitations and opportunities that would be impossible with larger groups.





Leading the Way

World-Class Local Guides

Our knowledgeable and passionate expert guides effortlessly create an immersive local experience for you. They are trained to the highest professional standards and are at the heart of everything we do. They make it possible to meet the challenges of adventure travel, and help create lasting memories and lifelong friendships... we can confidently say our guides are the best in the business.





Why take this trip with us?

REASON 1

MT Sobek has been bringing travelers to Peru for over 40 years, and our expertise and local knowledge is second to none.

REASON 2

Due to permit restrictions, only a limited number of travelers are allowed to make this trek each year. MT Sobek takes care of securing permits on your behalf.

REASON 3

Our Inca Trail experience is unlike any other, carefully crafted so you have the trail virtually to yourselves for much of the trek with acclimatization time.

At A Glance

ACTIVITIES

Moderate to strenuous high-altitude hiking from 4 to 8 hours a day, following the classic Inca Trail to Machu Picchu. Also includes cultural exploration.



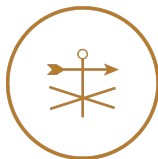
LODGING

Three nights of tent camping on the Inca Trail, deluxe hotels in the Sacred Valley and Machu Picchu, and boutique hotel in Cusco.



CLIMATE

April through October expect to see mostly sunny days followed by cooler nights and the possibility of morning frost.



KNOW BEFORE YOU BOOK

"What a total comfort to know that with MT Sobek, you're in the hands of professionals who have been doing it so long and so well. That was part of why we landed on them as our operators for our dream trip, and everything about the experience they gave us—from tailored expertise to unswerving professionalism—confirmed the company's emphasis on excellence." - Alex M.



Peru Inca Trail Private Trekking

The Legendary Route to Machu Picchu

The Inca Trail trek to Machu Picchu is an epic pilgrimage and one of the world's classic adventures. History unfolds as you follow ancient Inca footpaths and stone staircases over Andes mountain passes and through lush valleys and misty forests, stopping to explore evocative ruins not accessible any other way. Arrive at the Inti Punku, or Sun Gate, with an unforgettable first view over South America's most awe-inspiring archaeological site — the enigmatic stone citadel of Machu Picchu. Our Inca Trail is carefully planned to avoid crowds of fellow trekkers.

8 Days

Start: Cusco, Peru

End: Cusco, Peru

Departing: May, June, July, August, September

Activities: Hiking & Trekking, Adventure Camping,
Cultural Discovery, Private Travel

Lodging: Comfortable Camping, Comfortable Hotels,
Luxury Hotels

Group Size: Up to 12 Guests

ACTIVITY:



Check mtsobek.com for date-specific pricing.

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"I have taken 12 trips with MT Sobek. Each has left a positive imprint on me—widening my view of the world and its peoples."

- Jane B.

The Itinerary

DAY 01

Arrive Cusco, Scenic Drive to Chinchero & the Sacred Valley

Arrive this morning in Cusco, ancient capital of the Inca Empire. Meet your guide and private driver and set out on a scenic drive from Cusco (11,200') to the market town of Chinchero for a visit to the iconic market and a private demonstration of traditional Andean weaving techniques. After a special picnic lunch with views of distant snowcapped mountains, continue to the base of the Sacred Valley (9,000'), passing fields and adobe houses with red-tiled roofs. Arrive late afternoon at Las Qolqas, an eco-luxury retreat set in gorgeous garden grounds at the west end of the valley, just past the town of Ollantaytambo, and enjoy time at leisure to rest and acclimate to the altitude. The Sacred Valley is about 2,000' lower in elevation than Cusco, so by staying here the first two nights instead of in Cusco, you will be able to acclimate more slowly and enjoy the trek portion to the fullest.

ACCOMMODATION: Las Qolqas Eco Resort, Sacred Valley

MEALS: Lunch | Dinner

TRANSPORTATION: 2-hour private van transfer

DAY 02

Hike Trails from Pumamarca and Explore Ancient Site of Ollantaytambo

Rise for a hike along a mountain path, starting in the village of Pallata and climbing to ancient Pumamarca (11,200'). The Inca chose this place well, as a high vista point overlooking the verdant Patacancha Valley and the convergence of two rivers far below. Explore the archaeological complex, with its carefully hewn stone stairs and ceremonial buildings, then begin the descent, passing functional yet beautiful farmed terraces accompanied by sweeping, panoramic views, as well as local communities and isolated dwellings, where you'll catch brief glimpses into traditional daily life. Arrive in Ollantaytambo for a traditional Pachamanca lunch, then climb to the top of the city's well-preserved ruins. This monumental fortress is one of the few places where the Inca Empire won a major battle against the Spanish. Descend back to the town and discover fascinating vestiges of Incan town planning, including traditional housing compounds, stone streets, and an extensive communal water system. Gather this evening for a briefing in preparation for the Inca Trail Trek that begins tomorrow.

ACCOMMODATION: Las Qolqas Eco Resort, Sacred Valley

MEALS: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

TRANSPORTATION: 40-minutes total driving by private van

ACTIVITY: 3-4 hours/4.5 miles with 350' elevation gain and 1,700' elevation loss; 1.5-hours visit to Ollantaytambo (200 steps up and down)



DAY 03

Start Inca Trail Hike

Drive a short distance this morning to Km 82, the starting point for the Inca Trail Trek. Most groups cross the Urubamba River at Km 82, but you'll follow the river downstream and cross at Km 88, setting the tone for the rest of the trip - isolated, avoiding the crowds and having the landscapes all to yourselves. Arrive in Chamana, a small village that's part of the Llaqtapata Community, and enjoy a picnic at a private campsite (8,481'). As evening approaches, you will have the option to hike to the archaeological sites of Wayna Q'ente and Llaqtapata, charming ruins of Incan stone walls, stairs, and other constructions that will leave you in awe. Enjoy the luxury of hot showers and a warm dinner at camp this evening.

ACCOMMODATION: MT Sobek Camp - Inca Trail

MEALS: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

TRANSPORTATION: 30-minute private van transfer

ACTIVITY: 4-5 hours/6.9 miles hiking with 520' elevation loss and 300' elevation gain

DAY 04

Trek from Llaqtapata to Llulluchapampa

Continue your journey up the narrow Cusichaca Valley, passing houses inhabited by farmers and herdsmen, until you reach the Andean community of Huayllabamba. From here, the Inca Trail ascends steeply up stone steps through an ancient native forest bursting with melodic birdsong. The trail begins to level out at your campsite at Llulluchapampa (12,336'), situated just below the first pass. Here, experience breathtaking views of Mt. Huayanay and a first glimpse of the rare Andean cloud forest of Queñua, or Polylepis trees. Their reddish bark peels into paper-like sheets, hence their familiar name, "Paper Tree."

ACCOMMODATION: MT Sobek Camp - Inca Trail

MEALS: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

ACTIVITY: 7-8 hours/7.3 miles hiking with 3,850' elevation gain



Tackle Warmiwañusqa and Runkurakay Passes

Wake early for the hike's longest leg, a steep hike through three climatic zones that tackles the trail's two highest points. First is the fabled Warmiwañusqa Pass (13,802')—the highest point on the Inca Trail! The Quechua name translates to "Dead Woman's Pass," so named because the crest of the pass resembles a woman lying down. Enjoy wonderful views of the surrounding ridges and peaks, then descend to the Pacaymayo River for a hearty lunch. Ascend again to the second pass of the day, at Runkurakay (13,018'), then begin a descent that reveals the first signs of the mist-filled Andean cloud forest, including endemic species found nowhere else on Earth. Look out for hummingbirds, butterflies, and delicate orchids. Continue along a ridge with views of snow-capped Mt Salkantay on the western side and Mt Pumasillo silhouetted on the horizon to the north. Follow the flag-stoned trail to Phuyupatamarca, meaning "village at the edge of the clouds," and camp (12,008').

ACCOMMODATION: MT Sobek Camp - Inca Trail

MEALS: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

ACTIVITY: 8-9 hours/7.5 miles hiking with 1,470' elevation gain to first pass, then 2,010' elevation loss, then 1,230' elevation gain to second pass and 1,010' elevation loss to overnight camp



Trek the Last Leg to Machu Picchu

Today you'll get your first glimpse of the citadel at Machu Picchu - a long-awaited moment you've worked hard for! Rise for a glorious sunrise view and steaming cup of tea uphill from the campsite. After breakfast, trek along a buttress, passing the ruins at Phuyupatamarca, with an irrigation system built over five centuries ago, that still works today! Zigzag down a series of stone steps into the cloud forest and arrive at the ruins of Wiñay Wayna ("Forever Young"), located just below the ridge. After lunch, continue ascending ancient stone steps and the narrow trail up to Intipunku, the original entrance to Machu Picchu. Pause to absorb the awesome view, with the gentle late-afternoon light both illuminating the ruins and casting them in mystical shadow, then follow the trail down to Machu Picchu itself, arriving late-afternoon. Continue by shuttle bus to your luxury hotel in nearby Aguas Calientes.

ACCOMMODATION: Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel

MEALS: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

TRANSPORTATION: 30-minute public shuttle from Machu Picchu to Aguas Calientes

ACTIVITY: 7-8 hours/6.8 miles hiking with 4,030' elevation loss



Experience Machu Picchu & Return to Cusco

Enjoy an in-depth walking tour of Machu Picchu's various main structures and learn about their importance in Inca times. Take a challenging climb up either Machu Picchu's Old Mountain or Huayna Picchu Mountain (optional — additional cost applies and tickets are subject to availability for the date) and be rewarded by breathtaking views of the citadel and the surrounding mountains. After lunch at the Sanctuary Lodge, return to Aguas Calientes for the train journey back to Ollantaytambo, and continue by private van to Cusco. Gather for a festive farewell dinner this evening at Cicciolina, one of the best restaurants in Cusco.

ACCOMMODATION: Antigua Casona San Blas, Cusco

MEALS: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

TRANSPORTATION: 30-minute public shuttle to/from Machu Picchu; 2-hour train ride; 2-hour private van transfer



Explore Cusco and Fly Home

Enjoy a walking tour of this ancient capital of the Inca Empire, with remnants of the original walls and temples, and artisans at work. Also venture above the city to visit the fortress of Sacsayhuaman, one of the most impressive examples of Incan engineering. Transfer to Cusco airport for evening flights home.

MEALS: Breakfast

TRANSPORTATION: 30-minute private van transfer



Where You'll Stay

These accommodations may be subject to change depending on your date of travel.

Las Qolqas Eco Resort

Elegant glamping tents similar to African safari tents, constructed with high-quality canvas, real beds, a full en-suite bathroom with shower, and a wood stove make a wonderful experience at Las Qolqas Eco Resort. The tents are insulated to shelter guests from the heat of the day and the cold of the night. The resort is located just outside the Sacred Valley town of Ollantaytambo, near the start of the classic Inca Trail, and is surrounded by botanical gardens and an orchard, and features an excellent greenhouse restaurant focused on locally sourced ingredients. A sauna, Onsen hot bath, and massage treatments are available. The name "Las Qolqas" refers to the beautiful stone structures that the Inca used as warehouses for grains and textiles (of which Ollantaytambo boasts some of the finest examples).

MT Sobek Camp – Inca Trail

Each night, our team of porters and skilled cooks will have a comfortable camp set up and a delicious hot meal prepared, with double occupancy tents fitted with Thermarest sleeping pads and solar energy lamps and a dining tent with table and stools. By meeting stringent environmental practices, we are one of the few permitted to camp in remote sites away from the crowds. Additionally, we carry our own ecological toilet, which can be used during lunch breaks and while you are at camp: this means you are able to avoid the use of the public bathrooms that are frequented by many other trekkers.



Where You'll Stay

These accommodations may be subject to change depending on your date of travel.

Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel

A village in its own right, Inkaterra Machu Picchu comprises 83 whitewashed casitas set among 12 acres of cloud forest complete with terraced hills, waterfalls, and lush gardens. The individual casitas feature inviting beds and rustically elegant decor. Diners in the first-class restaurant can indulge in Peruvian cuisine with a modern twist, while admiring views over the Vilcanota River.

Antigua Casona San Blas

Housed in a former 18th century private residence that has been painstakingly restored with adobe walls and hand-carved balconies, the charming Antigua Casona San Blas is located in Cusco's artisan district of San Blas, one of the city's oldest neighborhoods with narrow cobblestone streets and excellent galleries, coffee shops and restaurants, and just a 5-minute walk from the city center. The rooms are beautifully appointed, with authentic terracotta brick or hardwood floors, insulated and soundproofed windows and doors, and modern conveniences and comforts, such as flat screen TV, WiFi, and comfortable beds with hypoallergenic sheets and pillows.

Departure Dates

This trip is available to run in: May, June, July, August, September

What's Included

PRICE INCLUDES

- Expertise and services of our experienced adventure guides
- All accommodations as noted in the itinerary
- All breakfasts, almost all lunches and dinners as noted in the itinerary
- Snacks and water between meals
- Additional regional guides and experts on many trips
- Comprehensive Trip Planner with detailed pre-trip information
- Private guided tours at historic sites, museums, wineries and other select attractions as noted in the itinerary
- Special events and other select attractions as mentioned in the itinerary
- All gratuities at hotels and restaurants
- Equipment and experienced guides for activities as described in the itinerary
- Park and other entry fees (unless otherwise noted)
- Fares for trains and other modes of overland travel as listed in the itinerary
- Select transfers as mentioned in the itinerary
- Baggage transfers and hotel portorage

PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE

- International airfare, airport taxes, and excess baggage fees
- Alcoholic beverages (MT Sobek provides wine at select events)
- Gratuities for MT Sobek guides and Inca Trail porters and camp staff
- Travel Protection Program
- Personal expenses



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