

## Peru Sacred Valley, Machu Picchu & Cusco Extension

6 Days



The Adventure Company | EST. 1969

MT-SOBEK"

**MOUNTAIN TRAVEL SOBEK** 

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS
AS THE PIONEER OF ADVENTURE TRAVEL

# Peru Sacred Valley, Machu Picchu & Cusco Extension

Add this Peru Extension before or after your Galapagos adventure and discover the top Inca sites and cultural landmarks of Peru. The Sacred Valley is filled with the captivating remnants of the Inca civilization, such as Ollantaytambo and Pisac, where stone terraces cascade down the mountainside. The crown jewel of the journey is Machu Picchu, the iconic archaeological marvel perched atop a mountain ridge with panoramic views of the surrounding peaks. Cusco, the historic capital of the Inca Empire, reveals charming cobblestone streets lined with colonial architecture and indigenous markets, creating a fusion of ancient and modern Peruvian culture.

## **Details**

Arrive: Cusco, Peru

Depart: Cusco, Peru

Duration: 6 Days

Group Size: 2-10 Guests

Minimum Age: 6 Years Old

Activity Level:

## **Testimonials**

"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.

"I've taken six MT Sobek trips and they have all exceeded my expectations. The staff, the food, the logistics and the communications have always been exceptional. Thank you for being my "go to" adventure travel company!"

Margaret I.

## Why Take This Trip With Us?

#### REASON #01

Drawing on over 40 years of experience in the region, MT Sobek can be relied on for expert leadership.

#### REASON #02

This extension immerses you in Inca history, exploring its most iconic archaeological gems.

#### REASON #03

We've designed this extension to include excellent regional food and the finest accommodations.

## What to Expect



#### ACTIVITIES

Exploring archaeological sites, a spectacular train ride, walking tours, colonial architecture.



#### LODGING

Stay at a curated selection of elegant hotels including a converted colonial mansion and casitas in the cloud forest.



#### CLIMATI

The climate varies due to the diverse topography of the region, with Cusco having a more pronounced shift between warm days and chilly evenings. At lower altitudes, the Sacred Valley and

## **Meet Our Guides**

Our expert guides and trip leaders are truly the key to our trips' success. Many are locals who live in-country year-round; others have made it their second home—all are passionate, enthusiastic and endlessly knowledgeable. Meet two of the guides that might be on your trip.

We work with only the most experienced and knowledgeable local guides on our trips. You will be in excellent hands with a fully licensed and accredited local guide who will share their expertise in everything from history and architecture, to culture and traditions, the best local cuisine, activities and crafts, or even shopping. Local guides live, breathe, and love their trips because as locals they are an integral part of their communities. Their connections run deep and pride in their piece of the world is contagious.

**Local Tour Guide** 

## **Itinerary**

### DAY 1 ARRIVE IN CUSCO, TRANSFER TO SACRED VALLEY

Upon arrival in Cusco, meet your local guide and transfer to the nearby Urubamba Valley (also known as the Sacred Valley). The valley is situated about 2,000' lower than Cusco (which is at 11,200' above sea level) and staying here for the first nights will help you acclimatize. Stop en route to visit the ancient ruins of Pisac, perched on a hill high above the valley, and featuring some of the finest Inca stonework in existence as well as beautiful, sweeping terraces that perfectly highlight the contours of the mountain terrain. Enjoy lunch in Pisac village, then continue to your hotel in Urubamba. Enjoy a Welcome Dinner.

Activity: 2 hours walking tour of archaeological ruins

Meals: L, D

DAY 2 DISCOVER SACRED VALLEY SITES OF MARAS, MORAY & OLLANTAYTAMBO

Set out this morning on a scenic drive from the valley to the highland plateau. Visit the salt pans of Maras, where one of the finest salts in the world is extracted. The patchwork effect of hundreds of salt pans in varying shades of white, pink and beige is wonderfully photogenic. Enjoy a special picnic lunch with beautiful views of the surrounding landscapes. Continue to the ancient site of Moray to see its impressive circular terraces that were used by the Incas as a botanical laboratory. Return to the valley and visit the fascinating ruins of Ollantaytambo. This monumental fortress is one of the few places where the Inca Empire won a major battle against the Spanish. The town below shows vestiges of Incan town planning, including traditional housing compounds, stone streets, and an extensive communal water system that is still in use to this day. Return to the hotel in Urubamba. Dinner tonight is on your own.

Activity: 2 hours walking tour of Maras & Moray, 2x hours walking tour of Ollantaytambo (including 200 steps up & down to reach the top of the ancient fortress)

Meals: B, L

## DAY 3 TRAIN TO MACHU PICCHU & TOUR THE RUINS

After breakfast, transfer to the train station at Ollantaytambo. Board a train for the scenic 2 hour trip along the Urubamba River. From the Machu Picchu train station at Aguas Calientes, a short bus ride on steep, winding switchback roads will take you up to the enigmatic "lost city" perched 2,000' above the river. The majestic ruins nestled between striking mountain peaks exist as an incomparable complex of terraces, stairways, baths, altars, and houses. Immediately following lunch at the Sanctuary Lodge, learn about the archaeological and historical importance of these structures as part of your private in-depth walking tour of the Machu Picchu citadel. Return to Aguas Calientes by bus and check in to your luxury hotel for some time at leisure before dinner.

Accommodation: Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel or similar

Activity: 3 hours walking tour of Machu Picchu

#### DAY 4 EXPLORE MACHU PICCHU & RETURN TO CUSCO

Return to Machu Picchu this morning and explore the citadel further with your guide, or if you wish, you can hike Machu Picchu Mountain or climb Huayna Picchu for dramatic vistas of the ruins below and the surrounding mountains (subject to permit availability). Descend for lunch at the hotel and take an afternoon train back to Ollantaytambo station. From there you'll be transferred to Cusco to check-in to your hotel. Dinner is on your own.

Activity: 2 hours walking tour of Machu Picchu or 2-3 hours/2 miles optional mountain hikes

Meals: B.L

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## DAY 5 CUSCO AND SACSAYHUAMAN

Cusco was the ancient capital of the Inca Empire and is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site celebrated for its history and vibrant beauty. Explore the city this morning on a private walking tour, including the Main Square and Cathedral, and also venture above the city to marvel at the incredible stonework at the ancient fortress of Sacsayhuamán, built on high terraces overlooking Cusco. The afternoon is at leisure back in Cusco for independent explorations. In the evening, gather for a special farewell dinner.

Activity: 4 hours walking tour of Cusco and Sacsayhuaman

Meals: B, D

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### DAY 6 DEPART CUSCO

After breakfast, you'll have a private transfer to the Cusco airport for your departing flight.

Meals: B

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Dates	
For full terms and conditions please visit www.mtsobek.com/terms. Please note that our itineraries may be subject to change.	
GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT.	

## **Inclusions & Exclusions**

#### **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
- Bottled water on all group transfers (if possible,
- bring your own and we will refill with purified water to save on plastic waste)
- Mineral water and soft drinks with included meals
- Wine with welcome and farewell dinners
- All gratuities at hotels and restaurants
- Entrance fees and ground transportation for
- all activities mentioned in the itinerary (unless otherwise noted)
- Select transfers as mentioned in the itinerary
- Baggage transfers and porterage

#### PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE

- International airfare, flights to and from Cusco, airport taxes, and excess baggage fees
- Alcoholic beverages (MT Sobek provides wine at select events)
- Gratuities for MT Sobek guides and guide-drivers
- **Travel Protection Program**
- Personal expenses

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## The World of MT Sobek

At Mountain Travel Sobek, we believe life is an adventure and adventure is life.

As the originators, innovators and leaders in adventure travel for more than five decades, we passionately create, craft and share indelible, transformative journeys to the world's most memorable places. Our more than 200 unique and once-in-a-lifetime trips are designed to inspire and exhilarate, enliven and excite--opening eyes and minds through profoundly personal connections with nature and culture.

Our small group and custom adventures span the globe, and the spectrum—of interests, environments and activities—every one expertly planned and knowledgeably and passionately guided. And our commitment to making every experience a remarkable one has earned us preferred travel outfitter status for National Geographic Active Expeditions, Active New York Times Journeys, and Smithsonian Active Journeys.

We are the adventure company.

## **Awards**











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