

Itinerary

Day 1 (Sat 22nd October 2022): UK Airport* – Lima

Depart a UK Airport* on an indirect flight to Lima. On arrival in Lima transfer to a hotel for an overnight stay.

Meals: Dinner.

Day 2 (Sun 23rd October 2022): Lima - Cusco

It's an early start this morning for our short flight to Cusco (3400m). After arriving at the hotel the day is at your leisure to rest and acclimatise to the altitude, perhaps take in some of the local sights such as a visit to Cusco Cathedral, the markets, or just enjoy people-watching over a coffee in Plaza de Armas.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner.

Days 3 –4 (Mon 24th – Tues 25th October 2022):

Cusco - Project - Cusco

The next two days will be spent assisting on a local community development project while acclimatising to the altitude (up to 4200m). Previous groups have repainted a school, helped repair a clinic or community centre, or created a vegetable garden. This time is invaluable for acclimatising to the altitude before starting the trek and also provides a great opportunity to get involved with the local community and see rural Peru. There will also be time to meet members of the community and learn about life in this part of Peru. You will camp close to the project on Monday night and will return to Cusco on Tuesday afternoon after completing your project tasks.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner.

Day 5 (Wed 26th October 2022):

Cusco – Mollepata - Soraypampa

Today the trek begins. We transfer from Cusco very early this morning to take the winding mountain road to Mollepata (2900m), enjoying panoramic views en-route. After our pack horses are loaded and we are prepared, we commence the trek stopping for lunch at around midday. After lunch, we will continue hiking to our stunning campsite, Soraypampa (3850m), arriving late in the afternoon.

Trekking approx. 22km, 950m altitude gain.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner.

Day 6 (Thurs 27th October 2022): Soraypampa – Challway

Today the landscape changes drastically. After breakfast we leave the grassy terrain of camp behind and start the most difficult part of the trek, zigzagging uphill on dry and arid ground all morning to the high pass, Abra Salkantay (4600m). Upon reaching Abra Salkantay we admire spectacular views of the mountains and the imposing snowy peaks of Mt. Salkantay (weather permitting) which rises to 6271m above sea level. After celebrating reaching the high pass we start our descent through the jungle to camp in Challway (2920m), stopping en-route for lunch.

Trekking approx. 21km, 750m altitude gain / 1620m altitude loss.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner.

Day 7 (Fri 28th October 2022): Challway – Sahuayaco Playa

We trek through the rainforest today via the small town of Collpapampa, also called the "Forest Cloudy Brow" where waterfalls, thermal hot springs, fruit trees, and a wide arrange of tropical flowers and birdlife, such as hummingbirds, can be observed. From here we head to the Sahuayaco Playa campsite which is located next to a river where you can take a refreshing dip (2064m).

Trekking approx. 18km, 856m altitude loss.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner.

Day 8 (Sat 29th October 2022):

Sahuayaco Playa - Llactapata – Aguas Calientes

After an early breakfast, we will ascend for around three hours to reach Llactapata (2700m) from where we can admire views of Machu Picchu from across the valley. On the way we pass coffee plantations, beautiful landscapes as well as diverse flora and fauna. After enjoying the view, we descend to Hidroelectrica, where we stop for lunch before taking the train to Aguas Calientes (2040m) where we check into our hotel for the night.

Trekking approx. 20km, 636m altitude gain, 660m altitude loss.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner.

Day 9 (Sun 30th October 2022): Machu Picchu – Cusco

This morning we depart before sunrise to the ancient city of Machu Picchu. We transfer by bus to the site and enjoy a guided tour of the city before having free time to explore the site, such as walking to the famous Sun Gate from where you see the picture postcard classic view of Machu Picchu. This afternoon we take the train to Poroy, followed by a short transfer back to Cusco where we check in for the night before going to a local restaurant for our farewell meal.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner.

Day 10 (Mon 31st October 2022):

Cusco – Lima – London*

Today we fly from Cusco to Lima before taking the indirect overnight flight back to London*, landing the next day. **Meals:** Breakfast.

**Flights from regional airports may be possible subject to a small supplement.*

N.B. This itinerary may change due to unusual weather, the ability of the group and so on. We will do our best to keep to the itinerary but we cannot be held responsible for changes that occur outside of our control. In all circumstances your guide and tour leader will have the final say in the interest of the group's health and safety

