

Earthbound Expeditions

Peru- The Sacred Valley

5 days, from US$1,132 per person

Duration	Group size	Country
5 days	**15 people**	**Peru**

Peru- The Sacred Valley Overview

Explore the Sacred Valley, a peaceful part of the Andes with colonial towns and remote weaving villages set beneath the foothills.

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The 'Peru: The Sacred Valley' tour covers the main attractions of the Sacred Valley, together with the most important sites of Lima and Cusco.

The Sacred Valley of the Incas, also known as the Urubamba Valley, lies 20 km north of Cusco. This scenic and historic valley is one of Peru's main attractions for visitors. Its highlights include Ollantaytambo, the Pisac ruins, Huchuy Cusco, Moray, Salinas, Pisac market, Chinchero and Urubamba, and you visit most of these on this tour. The valley is also the gateway to Machu Picchu, the most important archaeological site in Peru, which is considered a masterpiece of architecture and a unique record of the Inca civilisation. You spend a full day visiting it.

In Lima, you can explore the main attractions of the city, including the historic centre (a World Heritage Site), the Plaza Mayor (main square), Lima Cathedral, the Government Palace, the church and convent of San Francisco, the Gastronomy House and more. In Cusco, a guided tour visits the Cathedral, the Temple of the Sun (Koricancha) and the archaeological sites of Sacsayhuaman, Q'enqo and Tambomachay.

Contact us to book this five-day tour of some of the finest places in Peru.

Itinerary

Day 1

Arrive in Lima

On arrival in Lima, you are met and transferred to your hotel for the night.

Altitude: 150 m On foot: None, arrival day Night: Hotel, Lima Meals: None

Day 2

Fly from Lima to Cusco and city tour

After an early breakfast, you are transferred from the hotel to the airport at the scheduled time for the flight to Cusco. On arrival, you are met and transferred to your hotel. At the scheduled time, a guided city tour visits the Cathedral, known for its architecture and its collection of paintings from the Escuela Cusqueña (Cusco School); the Temple of the Sun, or Koricancha, a classic example of the fusion of Inca and Western cultures; and the archaeological sites of Sacsayhuaman, Q'enqo and Tambomachay. Return to the hotel.

Altitude: 3,400 m On foot: Easy walking, 2–3 hrs Night: Hotel, Cusco Meals: Breakfast

Day 3

Sacred Valley tour

After an early breakfast, a scheduled tour visits the Sacred Valley, formed by the Vilcanota or Urubamba River. It begins at Pisac market, where artisans sell a wide variety of handicrafts. After lunch, the tour continues to the archaeological site of Ollantaytambo, where local people still live in the original buildings of the Inca town. Return to the hotel in Cusco. Lunch is included.

Altitude: 3,400 m On foot: Easy walking, 2–3 hrs Night: Hotel, Cusco Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Day 4

Day trip to Machu Picchu

After an early breakfast, you set off on a full-day excursion to Machu Picchu, the most important archaeological site in Peru. The site lies 113 km (70 miles) northwest of Cusco. You are transferred early to the railway station for the morning train to Aguas Calientes, a journey of about three and a half hours, followed by a 20-minute bus ride up to the site for a guided tour. Rediscovered by Hiram Bingham in 1911, Machu Picchu is considered a masterpiece of architecture and a unique record of the Inca civilisation. Lunch is provided. At the scheduled time, you return to Cusco and are transferred to the hotel.

Altitude: 3,400 m On foot: Easy walking, 2–3 hrs Night: Hotel, Cusco Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Day 5

Fly from Cusco to Lima and city tour

After an early breakfast, you are transferred from the hotel to the airport at the scheduled time for the flight to Lima. On arrival in Lima, you are met and transferred to the hotel. At the scheduled time, a tour of Lima begins in the historic centre, which UNESCO declared a World Heritage Site because of its many historic buildings, which show a strong European medieval influence. Important buildings include the Government Palace (Casa de Pizarro), the Municipal Palace, Lima Cathedral, and the church and convent of San Francisco, with valuable works of art, as well as the stone and wooden structures and balconies of the colonial houses. We also visit Huaca Pucllana, a large ceremonial and administrative centre of the Lima culture. The tour ends in the modern districts of San Isidro and Miraflores. San Isidro has modern apartment buildings and parks such as El Olivar, with olive trees brought from Spain in the 16th century. Miraflores has its Central Park and the Larcomar shopping centre overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Return to the hotel.

Altitude: 150 m On foot: Easy walking, 2–3 hrs Night: Hotel, Lima Meals: Breakfast

What's included

- Lima
- 4 transfers in and out, a city tour, and 2 hotel nights with breakfast
- Cusco
- 2 transfers in and out, and a city tour including the surrounding ruins
- Excursion to the Sacred Valley: Pisac market and Ollantaytambo ruins, with lunch
- Excursion to Machu Picchu, with lunch
- 3 hotel nights with breakfast

Not included

- Entrance tickets
- International and domestic flights, visa fees, airport taxes and insurance of any kind
- Main meals during the tour
- Luggage transport during hiking
- Expenses such as drinks with meals, room service, laundry, telephone calls at hotels, and tips
- Train tickets
- Any additional expenses arising from disruption to the itinerary due to weather conditions, illness, natural disasters, riots or other circumstances
- Liability for, or insurance against, injury, loss of life, accidents or loss of belongings
- Camera fees

- Personal equipment such as sleeping bags, walking sticks, shoes and crampons
- Any other expenses caused by bad weather, road closures, landslides, etc., and anything not listed as included

Photos, videos and reviews of this trip: earthbound.rajansimkhada.com/peru-the-sacred-valley