



TREK

SALKANTAY TREK TO MACHU PICCHU

4 DAYS / 3 NIGHTS



DESCRIPTION

HIKING IN SALKANTAY TO MACHU PICCHU

Embark on one of the world's most breathtaking trekking adventures with our 4-day journey from deep within Salkantay to the awe of Machu Picchu.

This exclusive experience takes you through spectacular, mysterious landscapes, starting with the hidden Qoyllor Lagoon and the stunning Inkachiriasqa Lagoon. Hike along high-altitude mountain passes with panoramic views of the mighty Salkantay Mountain, then descend into lush cloud forests on your way to Machu Picchu.

Inkachiriasqa is a turquoise lagoon with far fewer visitors than the well-known Humantay Lake, making it an ideal destination for those seeking a more peaceful, authentic, and nature-connected experience.

CONTENT



Map



Itinerary



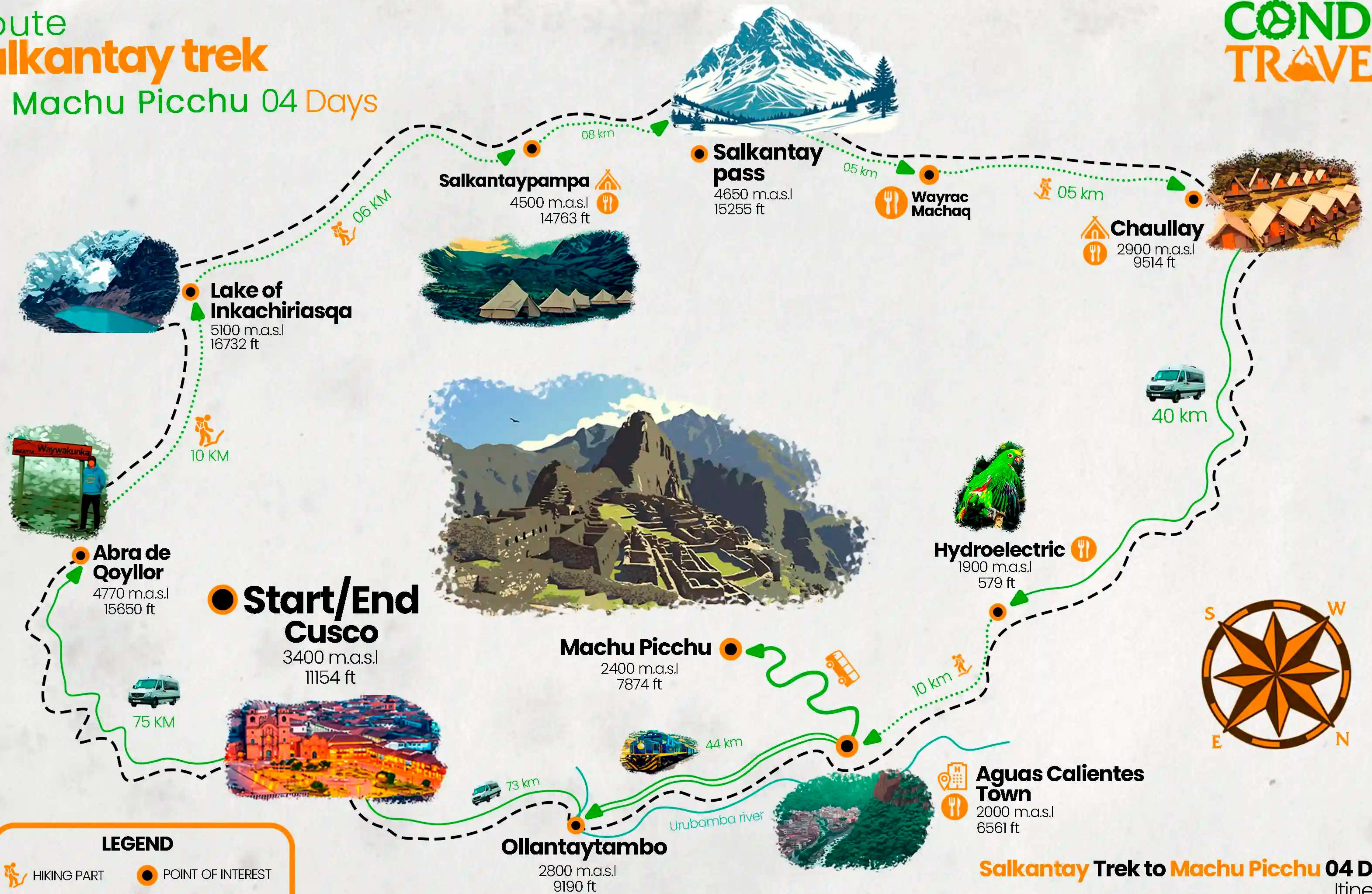
Included



Backpack list

Route Salkantay trek to Machu Picchu 04 Days

CONDE
TRAVEL



Salkantay Trek to Machu Picchu 04 Days Itinerary

DAY 1 - Cusco - Qoyllor Lagoon - Inkachiriasqa Lagoon - Salkantaypampa Camp

DAY 2 - Salkantaypampa - Salkantay Pass - Chaullay

DAY 3 - Chaullay - Hidroelectrica - Aguas Calientes

DAY 4 - Machu Picchu - Cusco

COMPLETE ITINERARY

HIGHLIGHTS

- » The Salkantay Trek is one of the most exciting trekking experiences in the world.
- » Visit impressive places like the Inkachiriasqa Lagoon and the glorious Salkantay Mountain.
- » Conquer the trail and explore one of the most beautiful sacred mountains in Peru and South America.
- » Hike alongside the magnificent Salkantay glacier.
- » Enjoy the best trekking adventure of your life.
- » Witness stunning landscapes such as waterfalls, colorful valleys, glaciers, and a unique variety of plants and wildlife.
- » Walk the sacred route and feel the energy of ancient citadel of Machu Picchu.

DAY 01

CUSCO – LAGOON QOYLLOR –
INKACHIRIASQA PASS – BASE CAMP
SALKANTAYPAMPA

Follow Sacred Footprints Toward the Hidden Turquoise Gem of the Andes

Your journey starts with a private transfer that will pick you up early in the morning from your hotel, followed by a hearty breakfast in Limatambo to begin your expedition full of energy.

Feel the excitement as your trek begins toward the remote community of Qoyllor, surrounded by breathtaking mountain landscapes and crisp Andean air.

At Qoyllor Pass, you'll meet our muleteers and horses, who will take care of carrying the camping gear, giving you the freedom to fully enjoy the hike toward the Inkachiriasqa Lagoon.



he path will lead you to the breathtaking Inkachiriasqa Lagoon, a turquoise jewel nestled at the base of the towering Salkantay glacier. With every step, you'll be immersed in raw, untouched beauty—an experience few travelers get to witness. As the day unfolds, you'll arrive at our base camp in Salkantaypampa, located just beneath the imposing glacier that gives the region its name.

Awaiting you there is a gourmet lunch freshly prepared by our camp chef, offering local flavors with a refined touch. Spend the afternoon relaxing with a warm cup of coca tea, the traditional Andean remedy for altitude and fatigue.

As night falls, gather for a delicious dinner under a sky filled with stars, surrounded by the peaceful presence of the Andes.

OPTIONAL: Horse rental available for specific sections of the trail (mainly uphill) for USD \$95. We recommend booking this service in advance, as during the trek there is no guaranteed availability without prior reservation.



DAY FACTS

- » **MEALS**
LUNCH, DINNER
- » **ACCOMMODATION**
CAMP SALKANTAY
PAMPA
- » **DIFFICULTY**
MODERATE
- » **WALKING DISTANCE**
16 KM APPROX.
- » **WALKING HOURS**
7 HOURS APPROX.

-
- » **HIGHEST HEIGHT:**
5 100 METERS ABOVE
THE SEA LEVEL

DAY 02

SALKANTAYPAMPA BASECAMP – CHAULLAY

Rise with the Sacred Peaks and Conquer the Legendary Salkantay Pass

Begin your day with a warm cup of coca tea and a nourishing breakfast, surrounded by stunning snowcapped peaks. Guided by the sacred Apus, you'll hike toward the legendary Salkantay Pass—one of the highest and most awe-inspiring points of the trek.

Over three hours, follow steep mountain trails with panoramic views of glaciers, dramatic rock formations, and the mighty Salkantay itself. Reaching the summit is more than a milestone—it's a spiritual encounter with the power of the Andes.



From the high alpine terrain, we begin a gradual descent toward Wayracmachay, where a comforting lunch awaits as the landscape transforms. The dry heights give way to the lush cloud forest—the jungle's edge—greener, wetter, and full of vibrant life.

In the afternoon, the trail cools and narrows, winding through mossy trees, wild orchids, ferns, and bromeliads. We follow trickling streams, cross rustic wooden bridges, and listen to the song of birds and distant waterfalls.

By evening, we arrive at Chaullay, a peaceful campsite tucked in the high jungle. Here, a warm dinner under the stars rewards our efforts, surrounded by pure nature and the soft music of the Andean night.

Let the forest wrap you in silence, scent, and starlight.



DAY FACTS

» MEALS

COCA TEA, BREAKFAST, LUNCH AND DINNER

» DIFFICULTY

CHALLENGING

» WALKING DISTANCE

18 KM APPROXIMATELY

» WALKING HOURS

7 – 9 HOURS APPROX.

» HIGHEST HEIGHT:

4 600 METERS ABOVE SEA LEVEL

DAY 03

CHAULLAY – HIDROELECTRICA – AGUAS CALIENTES

Walk Through the Living Jungle Where Every Step Awakens the Earth

After a hearty breakfast, we continue our journey through the lush cloud forest. This section of the trail is especially vibrant, bursting with life and color. Crystal-clear rivers wind alongside our path, while delicate waterfalls tumble over mossy rocks.

Wild orchids, bromeliads, and tropical ferns line the way, painting the forest with vivid hues and the soft fragrance of the jungle. The air is fresh, the terrain gentle, and each step brings you deeper into nature's quiet magic.



After about three hours of walking through the cloud forest, we reach our transport, which takes us to the hydroelectric station where we'll stop for a relaxing lunch.

From there, we continue on foot for approximately three hours along the train tracks—an enchanting stretch surrounded by jungle vegetation and the ever-present sound of the Urubamba River flowing beside us.

By late afternoon, we arrive in the town of Aguas Calientes, also known as Machu Picchu Pueblo. Here, you'll settle into a comfortable hotel with a private bathroom and a warm shower—perfect for unwinding and preparing for the grand visit to Machu Picchu the next day.

Rest early—tomorrow, the gates of the Inca citadel will open just for you..



DAY FACTS

- » **MEALS**
BREAKFAST, LUNCH AND DINNER.
- » **DIFFICULTY**
CHALLENGING
- » **WALKING DISTANCE**
18 KM APPROX.
- » **DURATION**
7 – 9H. APPROX.

-
- » **HIGHEST HEIGHT:**
4 700 METERS ABOVE SEA LEVEL

DAY 04

MACHU PICCHU – CUSCO

Step into the Sacred Wonder: Your Journey to Machu Picchu Begins

Today is the most anticipated moment of your adventure. Early in the morning, we'll board one of the first buses to Machu Picchu, one of the Seven Wonders of the Modern World.

With your professional guide, you'll explore the heart of this ancient citadel on a 2- to 3-hour tour through its main temples, ceremonial plazas, agricultural terraces, and iconic viewpoints.

As you walk through its stone pathways, you'll uncover the rich history, architectural brilliance, and enduring mystery that surround this extraordinary legacy of the Inca civilization.



At the end of your guided tour, you'll have about 20 minutes of free time to explore on your own, take photos, or simply soak in the energy of this sacred site. Your guide will let you know when and where it's safe to do so.

Afterward, we'll descend by bus to Aguas Calientes, where you'll board the train back to Ollantaytambo. From there, a private transfer will take you to Cusco, bringing this unforgettable adventure to a close.

Though the trek ends here, the memories—and the spirit of the Andes—will stay with you long after you return.

Note: If you wish to climb Huayna Picchu or Machu Picchu Mountain, you must book at least three months in advance due to limited availability. This activity is optional (US \$70).



DAY FACTS

- » **PICK-UP SCHEDULE**
ACCORDING TO THE
RESERVED CHECK-IN
TIME.
- » **MEALS**
BREAKFAST
- » **DIFFICULTY**
EASY

-
- » **HIGHEST HEIGHT:**
2 430 METERS ABOVE
SEA LEVEL

WHAT IS INCLUDED?

- » Briefing day before your tour in our office
- » Pick up from your hotel and private transportation to the start of the trek
- » 3 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 3 dinners (vegetarian option available)
- » Entrance ticket to Qoyllor Lagoon and Inkachiriasqa Lagoon
- » Entrance ticket to Machu Picchu
- » Round trip bus Aguas Calientes – Machu Picchu
- » Professional bilingual guide
- » Chef and kitchen assistants
- » Spacious dining tent and kitchen
- » 2 nights camping
- » 1 night hotel in Machu Picchu Pueblo (Aguas Calientes).
- » 1 sleeping bag
- » Return train Aguas Calientes – Ollantaytambo
- » Transportation from Ollantaytambo to Cusco



WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED?

DON'T FORGET... THESE ITEMS ARE NOT INCLUDED

- » Personal care items
- » Tips for the guide and muleteers
- » Breakfast on the first day, lunch and dinner on the last day
- » Walking poles
- » Ticket to Huayna Picchu or Machu Picchu Mountain Ticket – additional cost US \$70 per person. Book in advance, minimum 3 months before.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Do you have questions? We'll answer them here!

In this section, we encourage you to read this information carefully, as it will also answer any questions you may have about our exclusive services.

➤ **IS IT FOR ME?**

The Salkantay Trek to Machu Picchu is an exceptional alternative to the Inca Trail, ideal for adventurous travelers seeking challenges at altitude and longer distances.

➤ **HOW MANY DAYS DO I NEED TO ACCLIMATE TO CUSCO BEFORE GOING ON THE TOUR?**

We recommend arriving in Cusco at least two or three days before the start of the trek, so your body can gradually adapt to the altitude and you'll avoid possible discomfort.



➤ **WHEN IS THE BEST TIME TO DO THE SALKANTAY TREK?**

The dry season (May to September) is the best time for the Salkantay Trek, with clear mountain views and pleasant hiking conditions. The peak season is June to August. The rainy season (November to February) is not recommended.

➤ **PAYMENT OF THE TREKKING BALANCE (IN CUSCO)**

The tour must be paid in full before departure. Otherwise, your reservation will not be confirmed.

➤ **CAN I LEAVE MY LUGGAGE AT YOUR OFFICE?**

Of course! During the trek, you can store your main luggage for free at our office (please arrange this during the briefing or by email).

You can also leave personal belongings at your hotel (most offer this service).

➤ **CAN I CLIMB HUAYNA PICCHU OR MACHU PICCHU MOUNTAIN?**

Yes! These are optional hikes within Machu Picchu, but must be booked at least 3 months in advance due to high demand and limited spots. The additional cost is US\$70.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

➤ SALKANTAY VS. INCA TRAIL – WHAT’S THE DIFFERENCE?

Inca Trail:

- The original path built by the Incas.
- Ends directly at Machu Picchu through the famous Sun Gate (Inti Punku).
- Passes through impressive Inca archaeological sites.
- Perfect for combining history, culture, and nature.
- Requires early booking due to limited permits.

Salkantay Trek:

- A more adventurous route through the Vilcabamba mountain range.
- Hike among glaciers, snow-capped peaks, and lush cloud forests.
- Includes the hidden Inkachiriasqa Lagoon, surrounded by majestic Andean scenery.
- Spend your last night in a hotel in Aguas Calientes for a good rest before Machu Picchu.
- No permits required and fewer crowds on the trail.

➤ HOW HARD IS THE SALKANTAY TREK (4D/3N)?

This trek is considered challenging due to high altitudes (up to 5,100m / 16,732ft), long daily hikes (14–18km / 8.6–11.2mi), and varied terrain. Good physical fitness and proper acclimatization are recommended.

➤ WHERE WILL I BE PICKED UP FROM IN CUSCO?

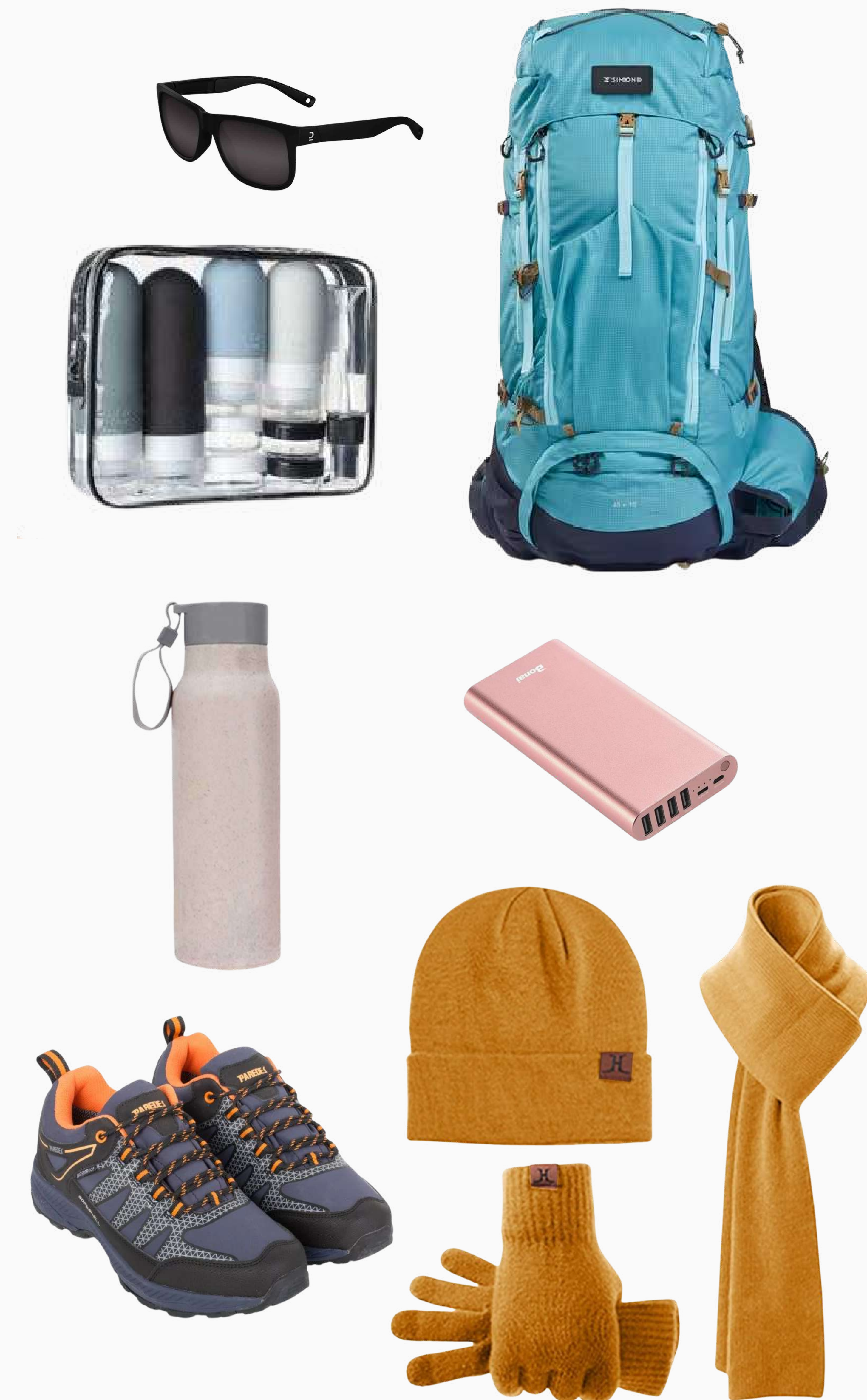
Due to traffic conditions and Cusco’s narrow, colonial streets, we recommend booking accommodation with easy van access near the Historic Center. Pick-up times may vary based on traffic and hotel location.

➤ HOW FAR IN ADVANCE SHOULD I BOOK THE SALKANTAY TREK?

We recommend booking at least 3 to 4 months in advance to secure entrance tickets to Machu Picchu, as daily entries are limited and can sell out quickly—especially during the dry season and holiday periods.

WHAT TO BRING?

- Comfortable hiking shoes (well broken-in), recommended waterproof.
- Small backpack (20L) for daily essentials.
- Cash in small bills (for tips, souvenirs, or extras).
- Hat or cap for sun protection.
- T-shirts and long-sleeve shirts (for layering), recommended 2 of each.
- Long pants and shorts (for changing temperatures).
- Rain jacket or poncho + warm sweater or fleece.
- Warm jacket for cold mountain nights.
- Scarf, gloves, and beanie for chilly mornings and nights.



WHAT TO BRING?

- Camelback or reusable water bottle (recommended for easy access to water).
- Sunglasses, toilet paper, and flashlight/headlamp.
- Camera and phone with chargers/power bank.
- High SPF sunscreen (50+ recommended) for strong sun exposure at altitude.
- Insect repellent.
- Personal medications and basic first-aid supplies.
- Plastic bags or dry bags (to keep clothes and electronics dry).
- **VERY IMPORTANT: ORIGINAL PHYSICAL PASSPORT.**





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