

HATUN HAMPA 6D/5N



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This is a breathtaking six-day trek in the Vilcanota's Cordillera, on a route we call the "Camino del Apu Ausangate" located in close proximity of the highest Sacred Mountain in the Department of Cusco. The "Apu" is the Bearer of Life and Guardian of one of the most pristine mountain ecosystems in the world.

Our treks will be accompanied by llamas and horses that will carry our gear. These are owned by shepherds of the community of Chillca who are proud to share their land with us, as well as the Spirit of their inspiring world.

On our hikes and in our unique "Tambos" or Andean Lodges, daily meals will be prepared by experienced chefs who will introduce you to a great variety of delicious Peruvian dishes and produce, and for your entertainment: authentic vernacular music, played by local inhabitants, will liven up some of our evenings at the "tambos."

DAY 1: CUSCO – CHILLCA

Early morning departure from Cusco along the fertile Vilcanota Valley to the town of Checacupe. After a visit to the colonial temple of the Immaculate, we start ascending the Pitumarca valley, along the spectacular Japura gorge that leads to Chillca, where we will be greeted by the community. From there it is a short and easy walk to the first “Tambo”. Once at the lodge there will be time to relax and enjoy the music provided by the locals of Chillca.

DAY 2: EXTRA DAY IN CHILLCA

After breakfast, escorted by our guide we begin the ascent to Yanacocha lake, after our picnic lunch we will return to the Lodge over the vista trail, which has some of the most spectacular views of the Vilcanota range. We will arrive at the lodge in time to take a hot shower and enjoy a delicious dinner.



DAY 3: CHILLCA – MACHURACAY

Our hike begins at 08:30 in the wide valley of Upis where impressive glaciated mountains loom above the valley offering majestic views. The trail narrows as we make our way towards the waterfalls descending from the Santa Catalina Mountain. This path is mostly used by the wandering llamas of the area. Once we reach the small Paloma lagoon the countryside will be dotted with these animals as well as a large number of alpacas. After hiking along a second lagoon and crossing a long series of moraines we will reach Machuracay Tambo Lodge, located right at the bottom of Apu Ausangate.

DAY 4: MACHURACAY - ANANTAPATA

After a demanding ascent of the Palomani pass at an elevation of 5,200 m. /17,000 ft., we will descend to Ausangatecocha. Breathtaking views of the glaciated south face of the “Apu” will inspire us as we continue towards the red sandstone formations of the “Nevado Del Inca”. Overnight stay in Anantapata Tambo.



DAY 5: ANANTAPATA - HUAMPOCOCHA

A spectacular part of the trail finds us hiking in the middle of mountains with red, ochre, and blue strata like Vinicunca (recently known as the “Rainbow Mountain”). This section offers us a glimpse of a marvelous geological wonder of natural beauty. Be on the lookout for groups of fascinating vicuñas, as they are frequently spotted in this isolated area. We will sleep that night in the Huampococha Tambo, in the heart of large rock formations near a lagoon where “huallatas” (Andean geese) make their nests.

DAY 6: HUAMPOCOCHA - CUSCO

After our final climb over the Anta pass, we will gradually make our descent. In this section the first crops and houses come into view. The landscape changes quickly as the red sandstone formations are followed by the carsten erosion of limestone, forming a one of a kind stone forest, and a perfect habitat for “vizcachas” (members of the chinchilla family). By the time we get down the valley, our bus will be waiting for the return trip to Cusco.

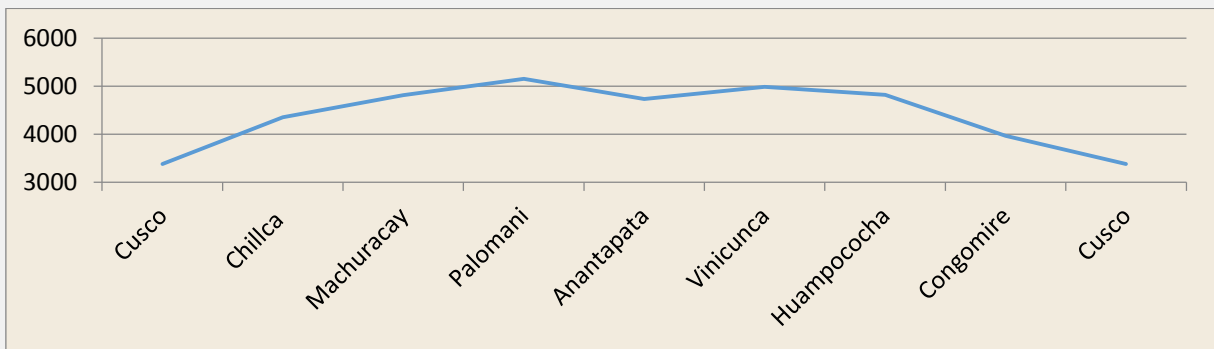


PHYSICAL PREPARATION

To go on the "Andean Lodges" Apu Ausangate's Trail Trek, one must be in good physical condition. We recommend a preliminary 3 to 4 day acclimatization stage, for your body to react better during the trek, as we will be hiking up to mountain passes at altitudes of about 5,000 meters. Also, it is important to drink plenty of water and/or coca leaf tea.

ALTITUDES AND DISTANCES DAY BY DAY

Day	Route	By car	Hike	Distance	Difficulty	Min. Alt.	Max. Alt.
1	Cusco – Pitumarca	2.5 hrs.		104 km.		3384 m	3590 m
	Pitumarca – Molino Viejo	1 hr.		30.3 km.		3590 m	4292 m
	Molino Viejo – Chillca Tambo		1.5 hrs.	3.3 km.	Low	4290 m	4350 m
2	Chillca - Yanacocha		3.5 hrs.	4.5 km.	Medium	4350 m	4720 m
	Yanacocha - Chillca		2 hrs	4.5 km.	Medium	4350 m	4720 m
3	Chillca – Huchuy Phinaya		4 hrs.	6.4 km.	Medium	4350 m	4530 m
	Huchuy Phinaya– Machuracay		2 hrs.	3.5 km.	High	4530 m	4850 m
4	Machuracay – Palomani Pass		1 hr.	1.3 km.	High	4815 m	5150 m
	Palomani – Ausangatecocha		1 hr.	2.4 km.	Medium +	4650 m	5150 m
	Ausangatecocha – Anantapata		3 hrs.	5.8 km.	Medium	4650 m	4730 m
5	Anantapata – Warmisaya Pass		1 hr.	1.3 km.	High	4730 m	4985 m
	Warmisaya – Surinicocha		1 hr.	1.2 km.	Medium	4792 m	4985 m
	Surinicocha – Vinicunca		1.5 hrs.	2.5 km.	Medium +	4792 m	4985 m
	Vinicunca - Huampococha		2.5 hrs.	5.1 km.	Medium	4900 m	4985 m
6	Huampococha – Huampoccasa		1 hr.	0.8 km.	High	4820 m	4960 m
	Huampoccasa – Congomire		3.5 hrs.	7.5 km.	Medium +	3965 m	4960 m
	Congomire - Cusco	3 hrs.		125 km.		3384 m	3965 m



INCLUDES

- General organization.
- Services of expert guides in mountain trekking.
- Private transport to Chillca and back to Cusco.
- Accommodation in double rooms.
- Breakfast and dinner served in the lodges, snacks and lunches served on the way.
- Waterproof bags for the baggage carried by llamas.
- First aid kit and oxygen.

DOES NOT INCLUDE

- Flights to and from Peru / Cusco, or any kind of transport before or after completion of the program.
- Travel insurance
- Tipping staff